JOY TO THE WEIRD: An eccentric-centric holiday gift guide | **Pages 17-20**

express

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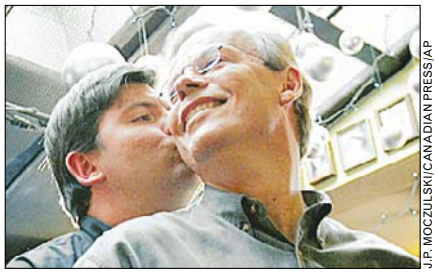


J.P. WOCZULSKI/CANADIAN PRESS/AP

A Canadian couple cheers the marriage ruling.

Gay Milestone: Court rules Canada can redefine marriage to include same-sex couples | 8

Safety First: Ramsey puts a priority on avoiding turnovers | 13

ENTERTAINMENT

Theft-Handed: *Brad Pitt* and the gang are back, but the thrill is gone in 'Ocean's Twelve.' Also, 'Notre Musique'; Bill Moyers retires; and loads of listings.

>> 21-32

Weather > Cloudy, Rain

52 | 42

FULL FORECAST ON PAGE 37

NIGHTCLUB SHOOTING | METAL MOURNS A LEGEND

TONY GUTIERREZ/AP

HEAVY HEARTS: Fans of heavy metal legend "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott mourn outside his Texas home on Thursday. Abbott, a founding member of Pantera, died Wednesday when a gunman shot him and three others as he performed at an Ohio nightclub. ✣ **Rampage:** A macabre scene | **Page 4**

Metro Gives Riders a Break

WASHINGTON | After back-to-back fare hikes, riders would get a break under a budget plan Metro management proposed Thursday.

While passengers would be spared, the local jurisdictions that help subsidize the system would see their bills soar. Northern Virginia, the District of Columbia and Maryland would cover a projected $42 million deficit in 2006 and a $31 million gap in 2007.

"We're going to be faced with finding new revenue, reducing costs or footing the bill, but it's not going to come from the riders," said D.C. Councilman Jim Graham, a Metro board member.

Metro CEO Richard White said the fiscal 2006 spending plan for operations will top $1 billion for the first time, and calls for cleaner buses and trains, more track inspectors, and faster response to rider complaints.

More than $10 million would cover initiatives White outlined last month in an effort to win over frustrated riders. They've complained of unsafe and overcrowded trains, frequent breakdowns, rude employees, and over aggressive police officers who have arrested customers eating candy bars and french fries. (AP)

Soldiers' Concerns Resonate

Bush, Rumsfeld say military is working to fix armor issue

WASHINGTON | President Bush and Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld on Thursday moved to allay soldiers' concerns about the safety of their vehicles and other issues, pledging that the government would do all it can to protect troops deployed in Iraq.

In comments to reporters at the White House, Bush said concerns about a lack of armor on some U.S. military vehicles bound for Iraq "are being addressed," and that he did not blame soldiers for raising the issue.

Bush said he has told the families of service members that "we're doing everything we possibly can to protect your loved ones in a mission which is vital and important."

The president was responding to a question about a town-hall-style meeting yesterday in Kuwait in which soldiers preparing to head into Iraq complained to Rumsfeld about inferior equipment and personnel policies that extend their tours of duty.

One complaint in particular — about a shortage of "up-armored" vehicles — prompted a flurry of comments from the administration and the military aimed at reassuring the public.

Rumsfeld discussed the issue again Thursday during a stop in India, telling reporters that the Pentagon was working hard to safeguard the troops. But he also said some vehicles "don't need armor" and suggested that a soldier who raised the matter did not have all the facts.

WILLIAM BRANIGIN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

✣ **Ghost writer:** Tenn. reporter fed troops questions on armor, deployment during Rumsfeld Q&A | **Page 4**

MELEES | **Santa Claus Is Coming to Jail** Festive goodwill was in short supply in Newtown, U.K., Sunday, when people dressed as Santa were involved in a massive street brawl, police said Thursday. Officers used pepper spray and batons to break up a fight involving about 30 people, following Newtown's charity Santa run, in which 4,000 Santas raced, the BBC reported. Five were arrested. Many involved in the melee were wearing their Santa outfits, officers said. (EXPRESS) **EyeOpeners** | Page 2

eyeOpeners

GETAWAYS

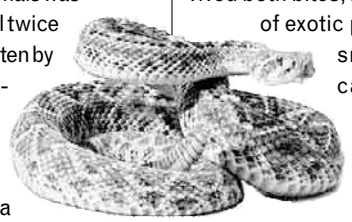
Maybe He Got A John Deere Letter

It wasn't exactly the perfect getaway vehicle. A Dover, N.H., man took off on a lawnmower Saturday moments after he threw two Molotov cocktails at his ex-girlfriend's apartment building, police said. Officials said Coleman was calm and smoking a cigarette during the slow-speed chase, which ended in his arrest. Police said one of the homemade bombs — glass Budweiser bottles filled with gasoline and plugged with rags — shattered, spilling gas and sending fumes into nearby apartments. The other didn't ignite. Steven Coleman, 37, was arraigned in Dover District Court on Monday. (AP)

SNAKES

Once Bitten, Twice Shy — or Not

An Asker, Norway, man with an illegal collection of exotic animals was rushed to the hospital twice Monday after being bitten by two different poisonous snakes, police said. The man was bitten by a rattlesnake and taken to a hospital, police said. Afterward, police learned the man had been taken to the hospital earlier the same day after being bitten by a Malaysian palm viper, but checked himself out. Though he survived both bites, his illegal collection of exotic pets, including four snakes, was confiscated and he faces charges of illegally importing wildlife into Norway, police said. (AP)



WOLFGANG RATTAY/REUTERS

INNOVATIONS

Skate and Switch

Swede Richard Nystroem, 46, has patented the world's first pair of "ice-less" skates, Reuters reported. His so-called "RollerLines" have five 360-degree spinnable wheels on each skate, making possible pirourettes, jumps, curves and figures on all sorts of surfaces. (EXPRESS)

INCENTIVES

Brewer Helps Stalk a Big Cat

After a Singapore animal-rights group received calls about a tiger being held as a pet, Tiger Beer is offering a year's free supply of its brew for a tip that leads to its capture, Agence France Press reported. Despite the volume of information, no one has provided the exact address. Fifty billboards offering the reward were posted around the district where the tiger is believed to be kept, adding to a bounty of $1,800 posted last month by Animal Concerns Research and Education Society. "It should be in its natural habitat," a Tiger Beer official said Thursday. (EXPRESS)

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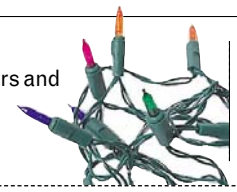
SEASONAL SLIPS: Decorating-related injuries — such as falling off roofs, ladders and sofas — land about 5,800 people in U.S. emergency rooms each holiday season, according to a federal study. Broken bones made up 34 percent of the injuries.



Nation

In Brief

PROVIDENCE, R.I.

Reporter Sentenced for Refusing to Reveal Source

A TV reporter was sentenced Thursday to six months of home confinement for refusing to say who leaked him an FBI videotape of a politician taking a bribe. Jim Taricani, 55, was found guilty last month of criminal contempt for defying U.S. District Judge Ernest Torres' order to identify his source, and could have gotten up to six months in prison. (AP)

REDWOOD CITY, CALIF.

Jurors to Deliberate Peterson's Punishment

Calling him "the worst kind of monster" and undeserving of sympathy, a prosecutor urged jurors to sentence Scott Peterson to death for murdering his pregnant wife before the panel began deciding his punishment. But defense lawyer Pat Harris begged jurors to give Peterson the chance to "do some good for the rest of his life," by sending him to prison instead of death row. Jurors will be sequestered for deliberations. (AP)

ANCHORAGE, ALASKA

Missile Defense Test Delayed

Bad weather forced the military to scrub the first full flight test of its national missile defense system in nearly two years. "It is just heavy cloud cover," Rick Lehner, a spokesman for the Missile Defense Agency, said of conditions Wednesday evening. The launch was being put on hold for 24 to 48 hours. (AP)

OKLAHOMA | CLOSE CALL

ROBERT CROSS/THE TULSA WORLD/AP

WRONG WAY: A small plane that crash-landed near Owasso, Okla., while approaching Tulsa International Airport Wednesday night is shown early Thursday. The pilot, traveling alone in the plane, survived the crash with minor injuries.

Bush: No Tax Hike for Social Security

WASHINGTON | President Bush on Thursday ruled out raising taxes to finance the centerpiece of his second-term domestic agenda: a Social Security overhaul to help the system survive an impending wave of retiring baby boomers.

Three years after his Social Security commission issued recommendations on how to repair the system, Bush remained noncommittal Thursday on how he would pay for the estimated $2 trillion cost of revamping the program. But vast new borrowing seemed increasingly likely.

"I will not prejudge any solution," Bush said after meeting with the Social Security trustees who submit an annual report on the state of the program's funding. But he went on to say, "We will not raise payroll taxes to solve this problem."

Bush reiterated a 2000 campaign pledge to let younger workers invest some of their payroll taxes in the stock market. White House aides said Bush also remained committed to making no changes in benefits for those at or near retirement. SCOTT LINDLAW (AP)

CABINET MOVES

➜ **President Bush** announced Thursday he was keeping the heads of the Transportation, Interior, Housing and Labor departments, ending the major shake-up that will put new faces on three-fifths of his Cabinet in his second term.

➜ **Bush also** said that Jim Nicholson, current U.S. ambassador to the Vatican, was his choice to lead the Veterans Affairs Department. (AP)

'Missing' Marine Charged

U.S. soldier who disappeared in Iraq accused of desertion

RALEIGH, N.C. | A Marine who was reported abducted in Iraq last summer and later turned up in his native Lebanon was charged Thursday with desertion.

Cpl. Wassef Ali Hassoun was charged following a five-month investigation into his June disappearance from a U.S. military camp near Fallujah, Iraq, according to a statement from the 4th Marine Expeditionary Brigade at Camp Lejeune.

Hassoun

Hassoun, of West Jordan, Utah, is accused of taking unauthorized leave from the unit where he served as an Arabic interpreter.

Hassoun also is charged with loss of government property and theft of a military firearm for allegedly leaving the Marine camp while still in possession of his 9 mm service pistol.

Neither Hassoun nor his lawyer planned to make any public statement about the charges, brigade spokesman Maj. Matt Morgan said. ESTES THOMPSON (AP)

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HOLIDAY STYLE: Three blocks of posh Rodeo Drive, in Beverly Hills, Calif., is dressed for the holidays in $1 million worth of chandeliers, the Los Angeles Times reported. French crystal maker Baccarat provided the 20 hanging pieces free of charge.

Guitarist Gunned Down in Ohio Club

Former member of Pantera, 3 others killed in shooting spree

COLUMBUS, OHIO | It looked like something out of a macabre heavy-metal video: The lights dimmed in the smoke-filled nightclub, the rock band Damageplan launched into its first thunderous riffs, and then a man in a hooded sweatshirt ran the length of the stage and opened fire, shooting the lead guitarist at least five times in the head.

In just minutes, the gunman had killed three others with his silver pistol before being shot to death by a police officer.

The rampage Wednesday night stunned the heavy metal world and left police searching for answers about what set the gunman off.

FILE/RALPH DUKE/AP

HEAVY RIFFS: Guitarist "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott, right, seen here during a concert in Texas in May 2004, was killed when a gunman charged onstage at an Ohio club.

The slain guitarist, "Dimebag" Darrell Abbott, 38, was a driving force behind the rock band Pantera, and police are looking into reports from witnesses that the gunman was a fan irate that the hugely influential group broke up.

Police identified the gunman as Nathan Gale, 25, who listened to Pantera music to psyche himself up before football games and would often hang out at a tattoo parlor and make a pest of himself by talking to customers about music, the manager of the tattoo shop said.

Also killed in the shootings were Erin Halk, 29, a club employee who loaded band equipment; fan Nathan Bray, 23; and Jeff Thompson, 40, who was affiliated with the band.

Two others were hospitalized. The nature of their injuries was not disclosed.

With his frenetic guitar riffs, Dimebag Abbott created an aggressive sound for Pantera and attracted a cult following in the early 1990s. Abbott and his brother, Vinnie Paul, left Pantera last year and released Damageplan's debut album, "New Found Power," in February. (AP)

Reporter in On Armor Question

Soldier consulted with Tenn. journalist on bold query to Rumsfeld

CHATTANOOGA, TENN. | A National Guardsman who asked Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld a bold question about armor on war vehicles went to the microphone after consulting with a Tennessee reporter.

Chattanooga Times Free Press reporter Edward Lee Pitts wrote about the incident in an e-mail to co-workers that was posted on several Web sites Thursday.

Pitts said he worked with guardsmen after being told reporters would not be allowed to ask Rumsfeld any questions. Pitts also said he arranged for the questioners to get recognized.

Tom Griscom, the Chattanooga newspaper's publisher and executive editor, commended the reporter's work Thursday. In hindsight, Griscom said, the newspaper should have informed readers in a note with the story published Thursday. He said there would be a note in Friday editions. (AP)

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Laptops Could Pose Threat To Male Fertility

First, it was tight pants. Then, it was saunas. Now, when it comes to fertility, men have something else to worry about: laptop computers.

Scientists at Stony Brook University Hospital on Long Island have discovered that the male testes heat up after only an hour of laptop use, and the 4.9-degree Fahrenheit increase may be enough to impair fertility.

"The body needs to maintain a proper testicular temperature for normal sperm production and development," said Dr. Yefim Sheynkin, director of male infertility and microsurgery and lead author of the study, which will be published Thursday in the journal Human Reproduction. "Until we know more about the risks, boys and men may consider putting the portable computer on a desk, and avoid the lap."

Further tests are necessary to determine just how much heat would be detrimental to sperm, he said, and the next step is to measure sperm count before and after laptop use. JAMIE TALAN (NEWSDAY)

Today in The Washington Post

Teens and Cars: Dark roads, reckless acts and fatal consequences. One Spotsylvania County crash is a window into the lifelong consequences for those who survive. | *Page A1*

Inside Intel: The reforms passed this week include little-noticed provisions to loosen standards for FBI warrants and allow for longer detentions without bail. | *Page A1*

Air Fashion: In an era of heightened airport security, retailers are pitching everything from bras to shoes designed to pass through checkpoints with ease. | *Page A1*

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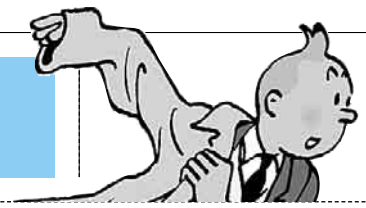

STAYING POWER: Comic book hero Tintin never aged during his 50-year career because the repeated blows he took to the head triggered a growth hormone deficiency, according to a Canadian researcher, Reuters reported.

Shiites Choose Roster

All eyes now on Sunnis as they mull whether to boycott Iraqi vote

BAGHDAD | Under the guidance of Iraq's most powerful Shiite cleric, Shiite parties presented a list of 228 candidates for next month's parliamentary elections. Minority Sunni Arabs, who had been favored under Saddam Hussein, must now decide whether to join the race.

Ayatollah Ali al-Sistani appointed the committee that set up the 228-candidate list. The list includes two powerful Shiite parties, as well as an array of independent Sunni figures and Kurdish groups.

The roster doesn't include the movement of radical Shiite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr, who appeared to be waiting to see if the vote will be considered legitimate before he joins the political process.

With violence roiling the country, key Sunni leaders have demanded the Jan. 30 vote be put off. But there were signs that Sunnis were breaking ranks. One group that called for a delay, the Iraqi Islamic Party, quietly submitted a 275-candidate list Thursday. Party officials said they wanted to reserve the right to take part if the vote isn't postponed. (AP)

Distant goal: On patrol with troops in Mosul as they try to secure city before elections | **Today's Post: Section A**

INSURGENCY | FIRESTORM IN MOSUL

REUTERS

DANGER ZONE: A man holds the bloodied helmet of an Iraqi National Guardsman near a burning vehicle in the northern city of Mosul on Thursday. At least two guardsmen were killed when their vehicle came under attack, witnesses said.

U.S. Prepares for Fallujans to Return

Intense security to be instituted in shattered city

FALLUJAH, IRAQ | When Fallujans begin trickling back to their devastated city, they will be routed through sandbagged checkpoints where U.S. and Iraqi troops will take their fingerprints, issue them ID badges and scan their irises — part of an elaborate plan to keep insurgents out of the former militant stronghold.

The first residents to be allowed in — possibly by Dec. 24 — will be heads of households, according to Lt. Gen. John F. Sattler, who outlined the plan Thursday. They will be permitted to survey damage to their homes during last month's battle to retake the city and to file claims for compensation.

The measures — though likely to be perceived as drastic — are necessary, said Maj. Francis Piccoli, a Marine spokesman.

"Some may see this as a 'Big Brother is watching over you' experiment, but in reality it's a simple security measure to keep the insurgents from coming back," Piccoli said.

November's U.S.-led offensive wrested Fallujah from the insurgents. But many, including Jordanian Abu Musab al-Zarqawi, slipped out ahead of the assault, military officers say.

Marines hope speedy claims payments and reconstruction will assuage some of the outrage.

"All the insurgents brought to Fallujah was chaos, death and destruction," Sattler said. "It's up to us now. If we don't turn around Fallujah, then we haven't gone beyond the tactical victory." (AP)

In Brief

ITALY

Verdict Near in Berlusconi Trial Over Corruption Claims

Premier Silvio Berlusconi faces a verdict in his long-running corruption trial, with a Milan court deliberating whether to convict the billionaire politician for bribing judges in the 1980s. The three-judge panel said a verdict could be expected as early as Friday. Berlusconi risks becoming the first sitting Italian prime minister to be convicted on criminal charges. The premier has maintained his innocence. (AP)

UKRAINE

Protesters Lift Siege After Parliament OKs Reforms

Opposition protesters lifted their two-week siege of Ukraine's Cabinet headquarters Thursday, a day after parliament adopted electoral laws to ensure a fair ballot in the repeat presidential runoff. The dismantling of the barricades came after opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko urged supporters to focus on campaigning for his Dec. 26 rematch with Kremlin-backed Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych. (AP)

ECUADOR

Congress Votes to Sack Supreme Court Justices

Congress voted to sack most of the country's 31 supreme court judges, a move that President Lucio Gutierrez said was necessary to reclaim the country's judiciary from the influence of his political rivals. Lawmakers in the 100-seat unicameral Congress voted 52-0 to replace 27 judges. Thirty-six legislators protested by not casting a vote. (AP)

Powell Chastises NATO Allies Over Iraq

BRUSSELS, BELGIUM | Secretary of State Colin Powell expressed irritation Thursday with six NATO members that have barred their military officers from an alliance-approved program to train Iraqi forces.

All six — France, Germany, Belgium, Spain, Greece and Luxembourg — opposed the Iraq war. They have declined to send officers assigned to NATO's Integrated Military Command to take part in the training program.

Powell

Powell is here for a NATO conference and discussed the issue with colleagues Thursday. At a news conference afterward, Powell said the six governments had created a situation that was "quite awkward" in holding back the officers. He said such actions "hurt the credibility and cohesion" of NATO's international staff.

NATO approved the training program last June. About 60 NATO personnel are assigned to Iraq and that total is expected to rise to 300. In addition, NATO is committed to the setting up of a military academy near Baghdad. GEORGE GEDDA (AP)

Japan Extends Iraq Mission by 1 Year

TOKYO | Japan will keep its troops in Iraq for another year, Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi said Thursday, arguing that extending the unpopular mission is a necessary duty.

Koizumi said he had "no doubts" the mission was essential to Iraq's reconstruction and the security of Japan, which depends closely on its top ally, the United States.

Koizumi spoke after the Cabinet voted to keep Japan's 500 non-combat troops in southern Iraq to purify water and rebuild infrastructure. The troops were sent to Iraq in January, the largest overseas mission for Japan's postwar military.

Opinion polls show about half of those surveyed oppose the deployment. Others have shown that about 50 percent backed withdrawing the troops when the current mission's mandate expires next week. (AP)

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World

1.5B | **The approximate number** of cell-phone subscribers globally as of mid-2004 — about one-quarter of the world's population, a U.N. study found. The number was driven by new subscribers in China, India and Russia, Reuters reported.

Canadian Justices OK Gay Marriage

Top court's ruling sets stage for Parliament to legalize unions

TORONTO | Canada's Supreme Court ruled Thursday that gay marriage was constitutional, a landmark opinion allowing the federal government to call on Parliament to legalize same-sex unions nationwide.

Judges in six Canadian provinces and one of its territories already allow gay marriages. Prime Minister Paul Martin said Thursday his government would introduce a bill shortly after Christmas that would aim to make gay marriage protected by law nationwide.

If approved by a majority of the House of Commons, as widely expected, Canada would become the third country to embrace marriage by homosexuals and lesbians. Belgium and the Netherlands are the other two.

The court's decision brings to the final stages a long, bitter fight over whether gays and lesbians should be allowed to marry in Canada. Public opinion is evenly divided on the matter, and advocates for both sides are preparing for the final phase of the battle.

To pass in the House of Commons, the legislation needs the approval of about 44 of the 95 Liberal backbench members of Parliament to obtain a 155-vote majority in the 308-seat House.

One top Liberal predicted the legislation should pass easily after its introduction, likely early next year. It already has the support of the 38-member Liberal cabinet and virtually all the 54 Bloc Quebecois and 19 New Democrat lawmakers. Some Liberal members of Parliament are opposed, however.

BETH DUFF-BROWN (AP)

PHILIPPINES | SMALL WONDER

REUTERS

SURVIVAL: Philippine soldiers carry Ella Mae Sor, a 3-year-old flood survivor, from a collapsed building in Real, Quezon province. She was among four people pulled alive from the rubble Thursday, 10 days after a fierce storm devastated several eastern and northern provinces, killing at least 840 people.

Sharon's Plan to Pull Out of Gaza Survives on Vote

JERUSALEM | Israel's plan to pull out of Gaza next year passed a crucial test Thursday when Prime Minister Ariel Sharon, his government crippled by opposition to the pullout, easily won his party's approval to ask the dovish Labor Party to join his coalition.

Defeat in the party vote could have spelled delay or even death for the Gaza withdrawal and an end to hopes for restarting Israeli-Palestinian peace negotiations.

At the end of a tense day of voting by members of the 3,000-member Likud Party Central Committee, Cabinet minister Israel Katz announced that the final count was 62 percent in favor of Sharon's proposal and 38 percent against.

The win clears the way to adding Labor, a partner solidly in favor of the Gaza pullout and resumption of peace negotiations, giving Sharon a majority government for the first time since June. MARK LAVIE (AP)

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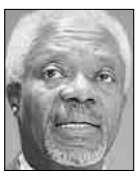
In Turnaround, U.S. Says It Supports U.N. Chief

Bush had refused to back Annan amid calls for his ouster

UNITED NATIONS | The United States expressed confidence in Secretary-General Kofi Annan on Thursday and said he should remain at the helm of the United Nations, an abrupt turnaround from its refusal to back him last week after a U.S. senator called for his resignation.

The unequivocal support from U.S. Ambassador John Danforth, who said he was speaking on behalf of President George W. Bush's administration, aligned the United States with the 190 other members of the United Nations who rallied to support the beleaguered Annan.

"We are not suggesting or pushing for the resignation of the secretary-general," Danforth said. "We have worked well with him in the past and look forward to working with him for some time in the future."



Annan

The call for Annan's resignation last week by U.S. Sen. Norm Coleman, R-Minn., amid allegations of corruption in the U.N. oil-for-food program in Iraq led to an outpouring of support from nations around the world. EDITH M. LEDERER (AP)

DIRTY POLITICS: A new poll released Thursday, the U.N.'s first International Anti-Corruption Day, showed that those surveyed believe that political parties are the public institutions most marred by corruption. Second place went to parliaments. Berlin-based Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer surveyed more than 50,000 people in 64 countries. (AP)

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Local

CLEANING HOUSE: Metro riders may soon see something that's been missing since the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks: trash cans on subway platforms. The plan for bomb-resistant cans is part of an effort to clean the system and win over frustrated riders.

Warner Eyes Improved Rail Systems

Va. Gov. outlines $824M transportation plan

RICHMOND, VA. | Gov. Mark R. Warner proposed spending $824 million to jump-start state road-building ventures with private partners, expand rail and urban transit projects and give localities more money to build their roads.

The initiative — part of the budget he offers the General Assembly next week — also includes more than $256 million to retire debt from highway projects completed years ago and adds $147 million to finance projects already in the state's six-year master transportation plan.

Warner said Thursday that the package — 80 percent of it a one-time infusion of cash — won't end a transportation crisis billions of dollars short of its needs. But because some of the money is aimed at transit projects that could ease congestion in the state's most populous regions and it could "jump-start" public-private projects, he said it may produce more benefit quicker than a greater sum of cash devoted solely to new pavement.

STEVE HELBER/AP

Gov. Mark Warner, D, is looking to give Virginia a 'jump-start' to improve the state's clogged roads and railways.

Warner proposes $80 million to improve transit systems, including $40 million for new Metro rail cars in the Washington, D.C., suburbs; $20 million for additional cars for the Virginia Railway Express commuter trains that tie Prince William County and Fredericksburg to D.C.; $10 million for buses in Virginia Beach; and $10 million to use statewide to buy new buses. BOB LEWIS (AP)

Investigators Lack Motive for Arsons

INDIAN HEAD, MD. | The search for evidence wound down Thursday at a Charles County housing development, but fire investigators said they still did not know why arsonists set fires Monday at 26 upscale homes.

Authorities followed up on several leads, but Kevin Perkins, the special agent in charge of the FBI's Baltimore field office, described the probe as a "wide-open playing field right now."

One lead that has not prompted many tips was a report from firefighters that a blue van left the scene shortly after the fires were set. County Sheriff Fred Davis said police received few calls about the van, but authorities still want to find the driver. (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, Dec. 9

DISTRICT

Mid-day Lucky Numbers	4-1-2
Evening Lucky Numbers	5-2-3
Mid-day DC 4	0-3-6-9
Evening DC 4	6-8-5-5
Quick Cash	3-25-6-33-11-20
Hot Five	26-2-4-32-31
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	2-25-27-29-35 (15)

MARYLAND

Mid-day Pick 3	7-1-9
Evening Pick 3	6-3-5
Mid-day Pick 4	8-5-3-0
Evening Pick 4	9-8-5-3
Match 5	2-13-27-31-36 Bonus: 7
Lotto (Wed.)	7-10-16-19-27-33

VIRGINIA

Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	5-2-8
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	3-2-3
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	5-5-2-2
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	9-2-9-2
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	2-5-6-21-23
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	3-7-23-26-32
Lotto South (Wed.)	9-27-38-39-44-47

MULTI-STATE GAMES

Powerball (Wed.)	13-17-35-45-50 (2)
Power Play	2

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

Holiday Celebrations

Delight in the sights and sounds of the holidays at the National Museum of American History!

See decorated trees, shop for one-of-a-kind gifts, savor the music of the season, create holiday crafts and edible treats, and enjoy special author appearances and book signings.

December 11

2–3, Vocalist **Arevivia Amos**

1–3, **Decorate holiday cookies. Explore the science and wonder of snowflakes.**

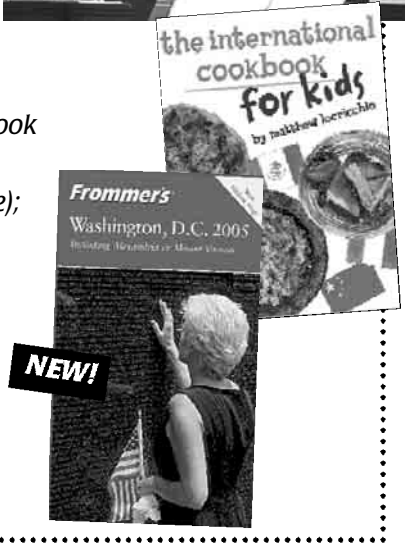
1–4, ***Book Signings***
Meet TV host and cookbook author **Marc Silverstein; Robert Malone** *(Ultimate Robot);* and **Jane O'Connor,** *(If the Walls Could Talk: Family Life at the White House).*

December 18

2–3, **Blues Alley Youth Quartet**

1–3, **Decorate holiday cookies. Make a Civil War-style handkerchief doll.**

1–4, ***Book Signings***
Meet travel writer **Arthur Frommer; Matthew Locricchio** *(International Cookbook for Kids);* **Brenda Rhodes Miller** *(Church Ladies' Celestial Suppers and Sensible Advice);* and **Colette Peters** *(Colette's Cakes).*



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For the complete schedule, visit *americanhistory.si.edu/events.*
Open daily except December 25, 10 a.m.–5:30 p.m. | 202-633-1000
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Most events are free.

15.3% **The portion of potential jurors** in Washington that actually showed up to serve in 2003, a rate that is about half the national average, WTOP radio reported. Only 44,452 residents appeared out of 318,111 summonses sent.

WASHINGTON | MAGICAL HOLIDAYS

DUDLEY M. BROOKS/TWP

SPIRIT OF GIVING: The Wizards' Etan Thomas arrives at the home of Uraina Barclift with gifts, part of a team project to deliver presents to needy families.

MLB Talks Key for Council

D.C. leaders want to spend less on new stadium

WASHINGTON | Two or three votes on the D.C. Council could swing in the mayor's favor if talks with Major League Baseball save the city money on a new stadium, a council official said Thursday.

"I think that would go far in making the chairman and other council members satisfied that they had negotiated a better deal for the city," Mark Johnson, spokeswoman for Council Chair Linda Cropp, said.

The city has reopened talks with baseball, but Mark Touhey, chairman of the D.C. Sports and Entertainment Commission, said that he couldn't reveal the issues they're discussing. Touhey said he's hoping to deliver something to the council before the final vote scheduled for next Tuesday.

Mayor Anthony A. Williams has said they're looking at clauses in the baseball agreement that mandate compensatory damages if the stadium isn't delivered on time and that limit the number of days the city can use the facility to 12. Williams also said they want more details on baseball's community benefit package.

The council narrowly gave first round approval to the plan, voting 6-4 with three members voting present, including Cropp. Persuading Cropp to vote yes "unlocks other votes," said Chris Bender, a spokesman for Williams. BRETT ZONGKER (AP)

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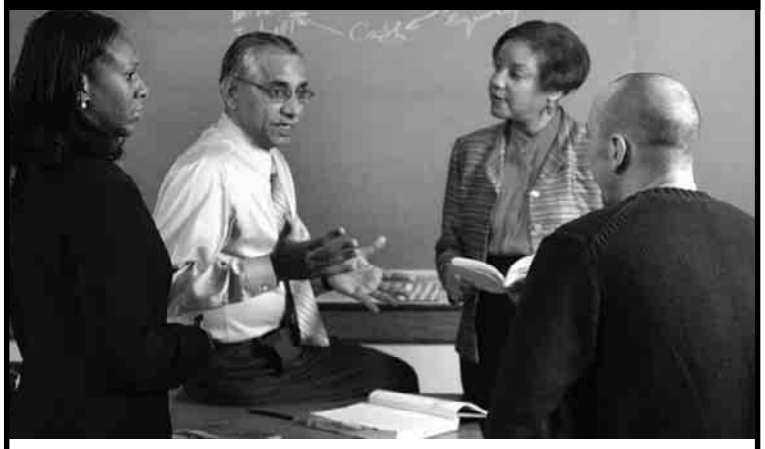

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Money

TAXING TIMES: Imprisoned homemaking guru Martha Stewart is in trouble with Westport, Conn., tax authorities for missing a property tax payment that was due Oct. 1, Reuters reported. With interest, she now owes almost $10,000.

New Jobless Claims Increase by 8,000

Latest development defies analysts' expectations

WASHINGTON | New claims for jobless benefits moved higher last week, a possible sign that employers haven't completely let go of their caution and are looking to cut costs.

The Labor Department reported Thursday that the number of new applications filed for unemployment insurance rose by 8,000 to 357,000 for the week ending Dec. 4. That marked the highest level since late September. The increase followed a sharp rise in claims — of 25,000 — in the prior week.

The newest snapshot of labor market activity was a bit disappointing to economists. They were forecasting claims to drop to around 335,000 for last week.

Higher energy bills and expensive health care costs may be taking their toll on some companies — squeezing profits and forcing them to trim workers.

"All of these issues ... eat into the bottom line, which ultimately result in staff reductions," said Richard Yamarone, economist at Argus Research.

Strengthening job creation has been an important task for President Bush. The still-recovering job market has been seized upon by Democrats who contend his economic policies have failed to induce a steady hiring spree. (AP)

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
GtAtPc	8.91	+1.17	+15.1
TollBros	60.99	+6.88	+12.7
Amrep	20.25	+2.00	+11.0
WwdeRest	4.03	+.38	+10.4
BarnNbl s	30.41	+2.41	+8.6

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Bluegreen	17.15	-1.59	-8.5
CenEurRus	23.98	-1.82	-7.1
IndoTel	20.43	-1.57	-7.1
Jacuzzi	8.25	-.63	-7.1
GnMarit	45.80	-3.41	-6.9

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
AllosThera	2.73	+.75	+37.9
NePA Fn	22.60	+5.79	+34.4
ZiCorp	4.50	+.97	+27.5
CienaCp	2.88	+.54	+23.1
ColumLab	2.72	+.51	+23.1

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Kos Phr	35.82	-5.41	-13.1
Trmfrd	4.62	-.68	-12.8
PacificNet	10.77	-1.53	-12.4
ImperlSgr	17.92	-2.17	-10.8
Datalink	2.11	-.25	-10.6

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	5.00	5.00
Fed Funds close	2.0625	2.00
3-month	2.20	2.18
2-year	2.92	3.05
10-year	4.17	4.41
30-year	4.83	5.06

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.5188	.5170	.5726
Canadian Dollar	1.2215	1.2182	1.3088
European Euro	.7507	.7499	.8172
Japanese Yen	104.50	104.04	107.07
Mexican Peso	11.2781	11.2400	11.1725
Taiwanese Dollar	32.33	32.35	34.01

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
+58.59	+2.90	+6.43
+0.56	+0.14	+0.54
10552.82	2129.01	1189.24

Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
Allergan	77.98	+.96	+1.5
AstraZen	41.11	+.63	-15.0
BarrPhm s	42.96	+.90	-16.3
BrMySq	23.65	-.11	-17.3
ForestLab	41.84	+.01	-32.3
Hospira n	33.91	+.71	+21.1
IvaxCp s	15.73	-.22	...
JohnJn	61.31	+.16	+18.7
LillyEli	54.68	+.34	-22.3
Merck	28.73	+.04	-37.8
MylanLab	18.11	+.07	-28.3
Pfizer	27.37	-.13	-22.5
SchergPl	19.24	+.73	+10.6
Sepracor	50.55	+.85	+111.2
Wyeth	40.83	+.38	-3.8

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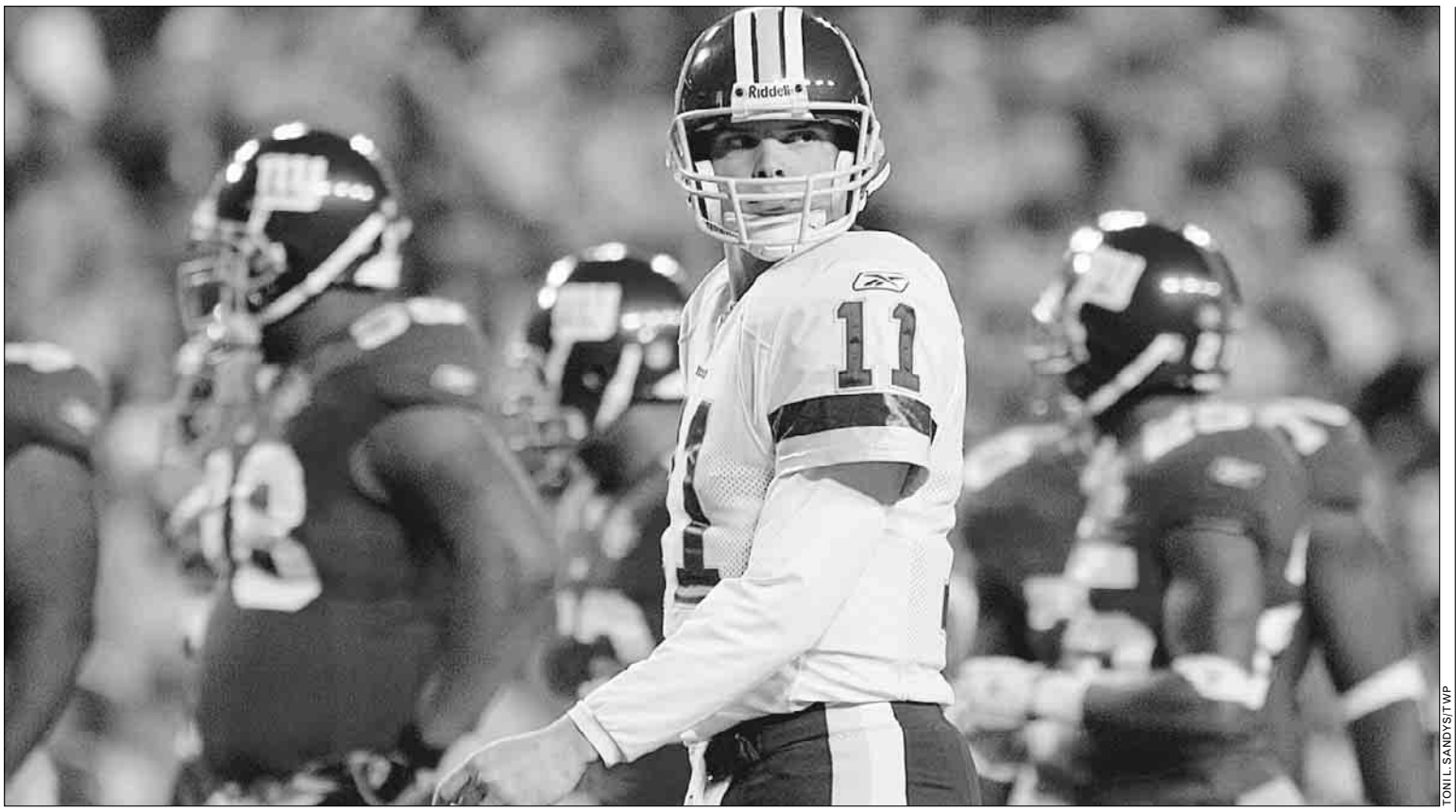
HEISMAN TROPHY
Youth Served: RB Adrian Peterson looks to be the first freshman Heisman winner | **16**

WIZARDS
Brown Out: The Wizards suspend former top pick Kwame Brown for one game | **15**

Sports Weekend



TONI L. SANDYS/TWP

MARCHING FORWARD: Quarterback Patrick Ramsey impressed Redskins coach Joe Gibbs with his play last Sunday, when Ramsey threw three touchdowns in a 31-7 win.

Different Strokes

Redskins' Ramsey shows progress adjusting to Gibbs' safety-first strategy

REDSKINS | The tight end was running wide open through the end zone for what seemed like an eternity, waving his hand, yet Patrick Ramsey held on to the ball.

In the past, Ramsey would have dispatched the pass immediately, but he's thrown enough interceptions to be cautious.

"I'm not going to fling the ball back there disregarding the fact that something bad might happen," the Washington Redskins quarterback said.

A second or so later, after making sure the coast was clear, Ramsey delivered the ball to Robert Royal for one of three touchdown passes in Sunday's 31-7 win over the New York Giants.

"I think in this game he stepped up another notch," Gibbs said.

No one at Redskins Park will say it, but the truth is that Ramsey has until the end of the season to win the confidence of Gibbs. If not, the Redskins will need to go quarterback shopping in the offseason.

To that end, Ramsey has become a different player. The gunslinger has been replaced by a quarterback focused on managing the drive.

A look at the stats shows a dramatic change in Ramsey's game. In two relief appearances for Mark Brunell, Ramsey had two touchdowns and five interceptions. In three starts after Brunell was benched, Ramsey has four touchdowns and two interceptions.

There are mitigating factors in Ramsey's numbers. Ramsey, although nearly mistake-free, led just one touchdown drive against Philadelphia and Pittsburgh before feasting on the Giants.

The competition stiffens again this week in a rematch with the dominant Eagles (11-1). "We're playing a serious team this week," Ramsey said. "Just a great football team. You want to see what we did last week, how we can build upon that." JOSEPH WHITE (AP)

Redskins Keys to the Game

DEC. 12: vs. Eagles
8:30 p.m. (ESPN)

➜ **TURNOVERS:** The Redskins defense needs to make some plays.

➜ **100-YARD MAN:** When Clinton Portis rushes for a 100 yards, the Redskins are 4-0. Not a coincidence.

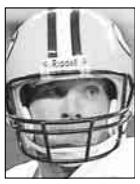
➜ **RED ZONE:** The last Eagles' game was close until Washington couldn't score from inside the 20.

Redskins chat: Nunyo Demasio previews Sunday's game at noon | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

TV Lineup

➜ **TWO MORE WINS?** The suddenly good Washington Wizards can show they are not a fluke by topping two very beatable teams — the New York Knicks on Friday (7 p.m. on Comcast) and the New Orleans Hornets on Sunday (1 p.m. on WB50) — during home games this weekend.

➜ **PACK MAN:** What to do without the Redskins on Sunday afternoon? You can watch Brett Favre and the Green Bay Packers take on the Detroit Lions (4:15 on Fox) in a game with playoff implications in the tight NFC North division.



Favre

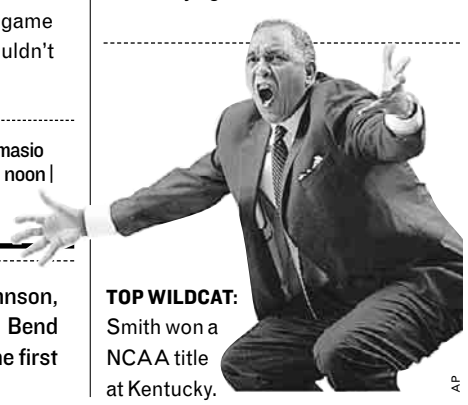
➜ **REBOUNDING TERPS:** After losing twice last week, Maryland has been off. But the Terps return to action on Sunday (1 p.m. on UPN20) with a game against the University of North Carolina-Asheville.

➜ **GIANT GAME:** The Ravens must beat theGiants on Sunday (1 p.m. on Fox) if they want to make the playoffs.

➜ **HEISMAN TIME:** Matt Leinart appears to be the favorite to win the Heisman Trophy when it is awarded on Saturday night (8 p.m. on ESPN).

➜ **NIGHT GAME:** The Redskins seek revenge for an earlier loss to the Eagles on Sunday (8:30 p.m. on ESPN).

➜ **OLD GUARD:** Two of college basketball's most storied programs take the floor on Sunday (1:30 p.m. on CBS) when Tubby Smith leads No. 10 Kentucky against Indiana.



AP

TOP WILDCAT: Smith won a NCAA title at Kentucky.

NOTRE DAME | **Hot Head** The assistant to Notre Dame's president shaved her head to protest Tyrone Willingham's firing as football coach, saying she will remain bald until the Irish win a national championship. Chandra Johnson, 50, assistant to the Rev. Edward A. Malloy, Notre

Dame's president, said she shaved her head last Saturday. Johnson, the school's highest-profile black administrator, told the South Bend Tribune she was shocked at last week's firing of Willingham — the first black head coach in any sport at the school. (AP)

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Steelers Keep Rolling

A victory over the Jets would give Pittsburgh the AFC North crown

KEITH SRAKOCIC/AP

DRESSED TO THE TENS: Behind Jerome Bettis, the Steelers have won 10 in a row.

NFL PICKS | The Pittsburgh Steelers barely escaped a loss in Jacksonville last week, thanks to Ben Roethlisberger's first late game-winning drive. With the AFC North just about wrapped up, they take on the New York Jets on Sunday, hoping to continue their run toward home-field advantage in the playoffs.

The Steelers have won 10 games in a row, and the Jets have won three straight after a midseason slide. It's unlikely New York can catch New England in the AFC East, but the Jets lead the wild-card race by two games and have Chad Pennington back at quarterback.

Pittsburgh, which can clinch its division with a win, are favored by 6 points. That seems like a lot, especially for a team that tends to play things close.

There might actually be more at stake for Pittsburgh than New York in this one.

The Steelers handed the Patriots their only loss, giving them the edge for home-field advantage in the playoffs if they win the rest of their games. **STEELERS, 17-16.**

DAVE GOLDBERG (AP)

Name That Score

More picks from the AP:

Patriots (minus 10.5) 31, Bengals 17
Panthers (minus 6.5) 24, Rams 17
Colts (minus 10.5) 34, Texans 26
Cowboys (minus 7) 31, Saints 20
Eagles (minus 9) 20, Redskins 2
Falcons(minus 7.5) 24, Raiders 20
Bucs(plus 5.5) 22, Chargers 20
Vikings (minus 6.5) 37, Seahawks 30
Ravens (minus 10) 24, Giants 6
Packers (minus 9.5) 32, Lions 9

Redskins' Cooley Has Been Quite the Catch

H-back breaks through rookie wall to become a key to Gibbs' offense

REDSKINS | Three weeks ago, Chris Cooley hit the rookie wall.

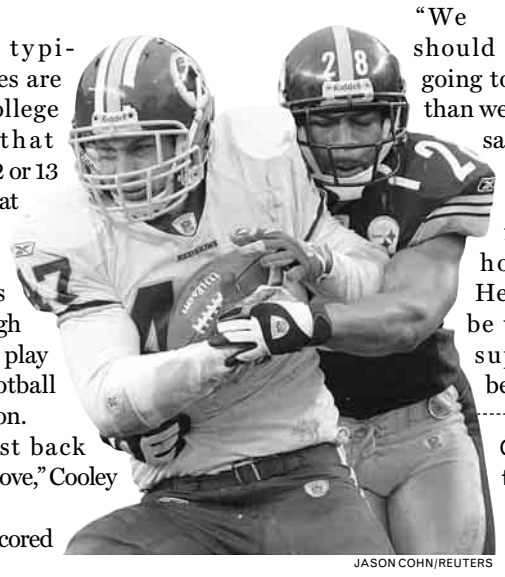
"Physically, I was OK. But, mentally, for like two weeks straight, I was down," the Redskins H-back said.

That's typical. Rookies are used to college seasons that end after 12 or 13 games. What is not typical is that Cooley has burst through the wall to play his best football of the season.

"I'm just back into the groove," Cooley said.

He has scored in back-to-back games and has five touchdowns on the season, tying him for the NFL lead among rookies. The third-round pick has 10 catches in the last two games and hasn't dropped a pass all season. He has stood out for an offense that has otherwise struggled, showing the versatility to hold down a vital position in coach Joe Gibbs' offense.

"We probably should have been going to him more than we did," Gibbs said. "Certain guys have a knack for getting hooked up. He's going to be where he's supposed to be." (AP)


JASON COHN/REUTERS

Cooley is tied for the rookie lead with five touchdowns.

CHRIS O'MEARA/AP

Holmes scored 10 TDs in October.

Chiefs Won't See Priest Until 2005

FOOTBALL | Kansas City Chiefs star running back Priest Holmes will miss the rest of the season with a knee injury.

Holmes, who was leading the NFL in scoring and rushing when he got hurt in early November, was placed on injured reserve Thursday.

Holmes was the NFL's player of the month for October, when he had three 100-yard rushing games, rushed for nine touchdowns and caught 10 passes for 170 yards and a touchdown. That put him on pace to be the first NFL player to score 20 or more touchdowns rushing in three consecutive seasons. (AP)

Brown Is Suspended One Game

JONATHAN NEWTON/TWP

Kwame Brown is averaging six points in just four games for the Wizards.

WIZARDS | The Washington Wizards suspended Kwame Brown for one game Thursday for conduct detrimental to the team.

Brown will miss Friday's game against the New York Knicks.

No explanation was given by the Wizards for the suspension, but coach Eddie Jordan said in a statement that Brown would rejoin the team on Saturday.

Brown missed the first 12 games of the season after undergoing surgery on a broken bone in his right foot, which he injured during a summer pickup game. In his first game back last week, Brown was ejected.

The No. 1 overall pick in the 2001 draft is averaging six points in four games. (AP)

Players Offer Salary Cuts

NHL, union resume negotiations to end 85-day work stoppage

HOCKEY | The NHL players' association offered an immediate 24 percent rollback of salaries Thursday as the centerpiece of a new proposal handed to the league in an effort to end the season-long lockout.

The union said all current contracts would be cut, a move that would save NHL teams over $500 million in the next three years.

Originally, the sides set up to meet on Friday, as well, but those talks were pushed back until next Tuesday.

ADRIAN WYLD/AP

NHLPA President Bob Goodenow and Ottawa's Daniel Alfredsson enter the negotiations on Thursday morning.

Time is running short to work out a deal and still have a legitimate season. Already 382 regular-season games, plus the All-Star contest have been canceled.

NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman again declined to announce a drop-dead date that would make the NHL the first major North American league to cancel an entire season over a labor dispute.

What the new proposal didn't contain was a salary cap that Bettman wants. Instead, the union again offered a luxury tax.

The negotiating session was the first between the league and the NHLPA since Sept. 9, the date of the union's last proposal. Without a deal in place, Bettman imposed the lockout that reached its 85th day on Thursday. IRA PODELL (AP)

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Sweetney Makes His D.C. Return

NBA | Most people in Washington associate Michael Sweetney with his three years as Georgetown's top player. But Tosha Craven's memory lasts a little longer when it comes to the New York Knicks' power forward.

Craven is the club adviser for the Oxon Hill Future Business Leaders of America, representing the Prince George's County high school where Sweetney earned All-Met honors before starring with the Hoyas and in the NBA.

While not an All-Star yet, Sweetney has made great strides in his second year, averaging 7.4 points and 4.4 rebounds a game.

On Friday, Craven and 21 of her students will see Sweetney's improvement for themselves during a field trip to see the Knicks play the Wizards at the MCI Center.

"For the kids who are going on the field trip, it's nice for them to be able to make 'Mike Sweetney went to our high school' posters," the teacher said. BRENDAN LOWE

Believe the Hype

Oklahoma's Peterson can be first freshman to win the Heisman

COLLEGE FOOTBALL | Adrian Peterson's arrival at Oklahoma was accompanied by impossible expectations. Before he even stepped on a practice field, he was hyped as one of the nation's best runners who would carry the Sooners to greatness.

Then, in just one season, he proved it wasn't so impossible after all.

Now, the 19-year-old running back will try to become the first player to win the Heisman Trophy as a freshman. No sophomore has won it, either.

He's one of five finalists, joining Sooners quarterback and last year's Heisman, Jason White, Utah quarterback Alex Smith and Southern California teammates Matt Leinart and Reggie Bush.

The award will be presented Saturday night.

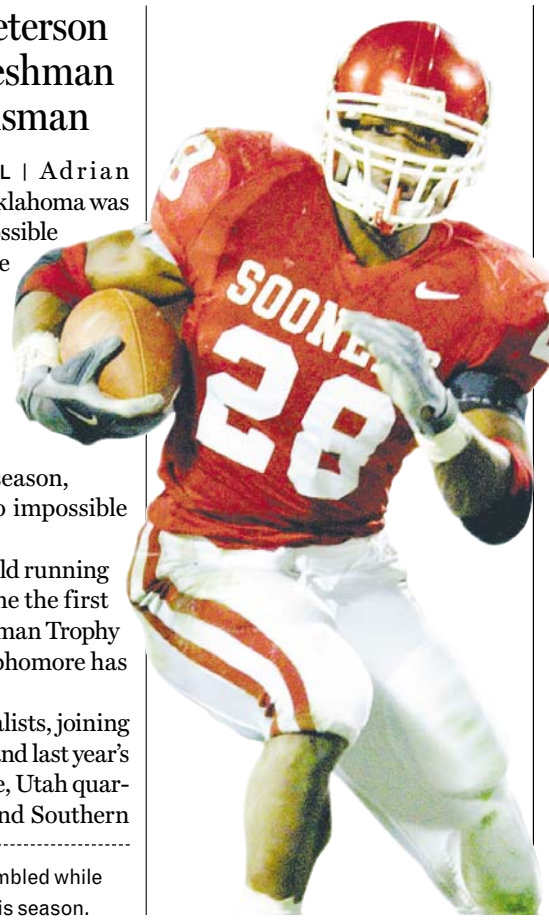
Peterson has rushed for 1,843 yards and 15 touchdowns. He's had at least 100 yards rushing in 11 games — an NCAA freshman record — and is only 20 yards from breaking the NCAA's season rushing record for freshmen, set by Wisconsin's Ron Dayne in 1996.

And he hasn't made the typical freshman mistakes. He hasn't lost a fumble all season despite leading the nation with 314 carries, helping the No. 2 Sooners (12-0) to an Orange Bowl berth against No. 1 Southern California (12-0) for the national championship.

Along the way, Peterson shrugged off the records and the attention.

He's not on a mission. He's just doing what he does best.

"I really don't feel like I have to prove anything to anybody," he said. "I just go out there and run the ball." JEFF LATZKE (AP)



GLUE: Peterson never fumbled while rushing for 1,843 yards this season.

Heisman HOPEFULS

JASON WHITE QB, Oklahoma — Could join Archie Griffin as the only two-time Heisman Trophy winners.

MATT LEINART QB, USC — Has thrown for 2,990 yards and 28 touchdowns this season.

REGGIE BUSH WR USC — Scored 15 TDs running, receiving and returning kicks.

ALEX SMITH QB, Utah — Threw for 2,642 yards and 28 TDs for 11-0 Utes.

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HEALTHY ADULT VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The non-profit Henry M. Jackson Foundation is conducting an investigational vaccine study at its clinic in Rockville, Maryland in collaboration with the Walter Reed Army Institute of Research. This research study will evaluate an investigational vaccine to provide protection against anthrax-an important concern for U.S. public health and national security in the aftermath of terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

The investigational vaccine is not made from anthrax and study participants will not be exposed to the infectious bacteria in any way.

You may be eligible for this study if you are generally healthy and:

- 18 to 40 years old
- A citizen or permanent resident of the United States
- Not in the military or the reserves

Participants will receive study-related medical supervision, physical exams, laboratory services and tests at no charge. Compensation will be provided for the required study visits.

For more information, contact: Keisha, Kathleen or MJ at the Henry M. Jackson Foundation

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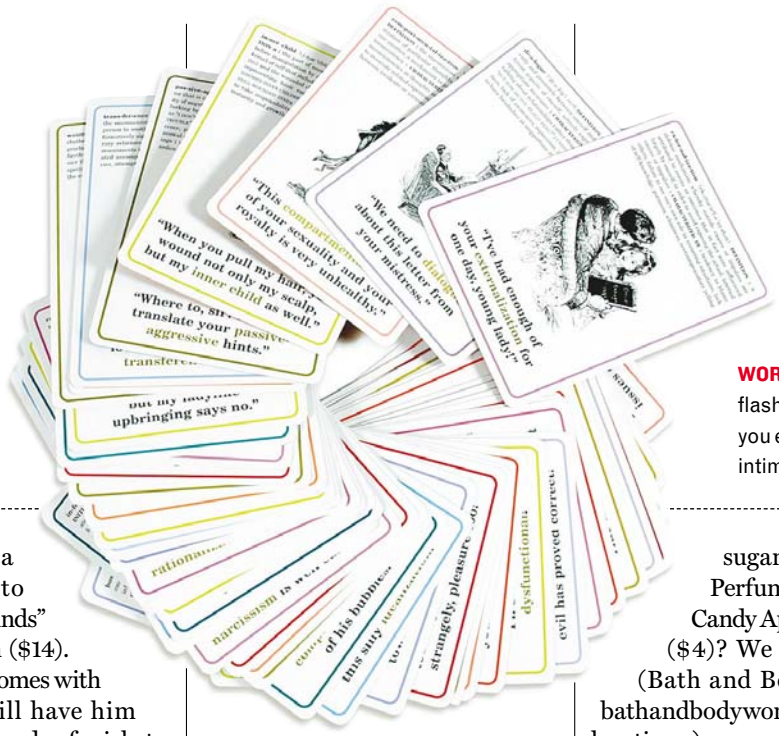
Gift Guide

Here Comes Santa Flaws

Gifts to match your loved ones' cute little neuroses



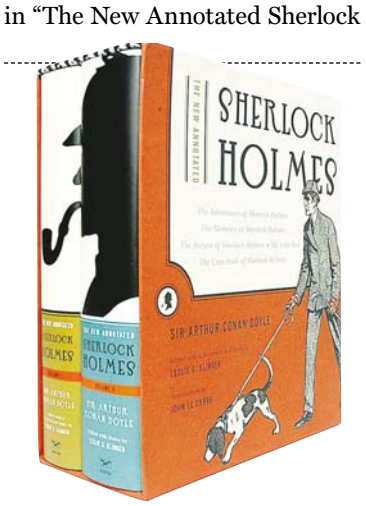
WORD PLAY: Therapy flashcards will help you externalize your intimacy issues.

Reuniting with far-flung loved ones during the holidays is heartwarming, to be sure. But too much time with them and you'll inevitably start to remember why vacations are made to be over. As much as you love your friends and family, bless them, they sure can be annoying. Why not embrace the endearing tics, bad habits and neuroses that make us human — and aggravate other humans — with gifts that celebrate them?

HOLLY J. MORRIS (EXPRESS)

ARMCHAIR PSYCHOLOGIST
Therapy Flashcards ($11) are the perfect coffee-table accoutrement for the amateur analyst. Each illustrated card features a word, definition and sample sentence ("We need to dialogue about this letter from your mistress"). Matching greeting cards are $15 for a box of 10. (Politics and Prose, 5015 Connecticut Avenue NW; 202-364-1919.)

ALWAYS RIGHT
Your all-knowing friend/parent/sibling will find a kindred spirit in "The New Annotated Sherlock Holmes" ($75), containing Sir Arthur Conan Doyle's complete Holmes short stories. Just watch that they don't pick up the good detective's cocaine habit.



HYPOCHONDRIAC
Pathogens take adorable shape in Giant Microbes, plush versions of bacteria, viruses and other cooties. Among the tamer: Kissing Disease (aka Epstein-Barr virus, aka mono) and rhinovirus (aka a cold). Scarier options include ebola, plague and knife-and-fork-wielding flesh-eating disease. ($6 to $7 each, giantmicrobes.com and thinkgeek.com.)

OVERLY CRITICAL
Let him sharpen his claws on "The Ultimate Matrix Collection" ($80), which features a commentary track of three critics trashing the second and third films. "I'd rather play the 'Matrix' video game than watch this," one says during the third film.

ALWAYS 'FREEZING'
Indoors, she either never takes off her winter coat or walks around wrapped in a comforter. Gap Body's sherpa-lined kimono top ($68) — kind of a bathrobe-jacket hybrid — is considerably sexier. (In brown and pink. Tyson's Corner Center, 703-893-4546 or gapbody.com.)

MAKES WEIRD MOUTH NOISES
Does he always seem to be chewing noisily — even when there's nothing in his mouth? Teach him some new tricks with a gift you're sure to regret: "MouthSounds" by Fred Newman ($14). The book (which comes with a helpful CD) will have him simulating the sounds of crickets, seagulls, ping-pong and trombones in no time.

DISTURBINGLY LAZY
The latest in java imagineering is the pod coffeemaker, which uses a teabag-like "pod" to brew a single cuppajoe straight into the mug. No pot to wash, no filter to clean. The cheapest and cutest of the bunch is Melitta's One:One. ($50, in five colors. See 1to1coffee.com for stores.)

PROCRASTINATOR
By the time it snows in Washington, local shoe stores have moved on to spring gear. Ergo, it's nearly impossible to find snow boots — certainly not inexpensive ones — at the spur of the moment. Lands' End's Marinac boots are only $39.50 for adult sizes, $34.50 for kids, and come in both cheerful and sedate colors. (landsend.com)

FRUSTRATINGLY INFLEXIBLE
Teach a loved one the joy of bending the rules. Le Creuset's line of flex-y, floppy silicone bakeware is a marvel to behold: The bundt "pan" ($25) peels off your finished cake. That's right. Peels. Muffin, loaf and other variants are available, too. (Home Rule, 1807 14th St. NW; 202-797-5544.)

SCARED OF NEEDLES
Gifts of plastic surgery and cosmetic treatments are increasingly popular, but must pride suffer pain? If you can get around the tact issue, here are a couple suggestions for non-invasive improvements. TwoFaced's needle-free Lip Injection promises to plump lips 20 percent for up to four hours. The box warns of an "intense tingle" while it takes effect; our tester compared it to "Tabasco all around the edges of your lips." Not far off: The active ingredient is "capsicum chinense extract" — i.e., hot peppers. ($18.50, Pure Beauty, Tyson's Corner Center, 703-288-4945 and 1031 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-429-0028.) The latest in rub-on Botox-like glop is Strivectin-SD. It's meant to minimize stretch marks but purportedly works on face wrinkles, too. Six ounces goes for $135. (Ulta, see ulta.com for area locations.)

ENJOYS SMELLING LIKE FOOD
This year's batch of food-scented body and home goods trends away from the clean and crisp (cucumber, grapefruit) and into the gooey and sugary. Cookie Room Perfume ($10)? Winter Candy Apple Body Lotion ($4)? We blame Atkin's. (Bath and Body Works, see bathandbodyworks.com for area locations.)

COMMITMENT PHOBIC
A Kadorable T-shirt subscription provides a hip, hand-printed T-shirt each month. Just as s/he has convinced his/herself through a laborious process of self-denial that s/he needs to move on, a new one arrives. ($145 for five months, kadorable.com.)

WON'T THROW ANYTHING AWAY
Neither will the folks who make these sturdy, cheerful bags out of recycled vinyl billboards. No two are alike. (Vy & Elle small DJ bag, $47, Home Rule.)

LOVES THAT DUMB 'GETTING LUCKY IN KENTUCKY' SHIRT
Make her a one-of-a-kind state T-shirt ($20) at customglamgirl.com (it won't come in time for Christmas, but you can give an IOU). Choose the state outline and shirt color, then make up your own slogan ("Feeling Bland in Maryland"?) Everyone will ask if you got it at Urban Outfitters!

Continued on page 18

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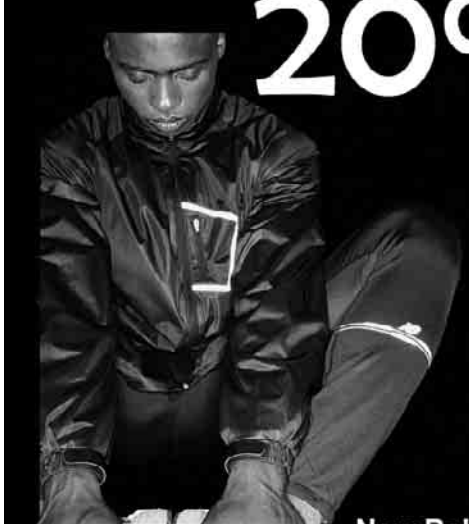

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Gift Guide

Continued from page 17

FORMER EXCHANGE STUDENT WHO 'JUST FEELS MORE AT HOME IN EUROPE'

Select some goodies and Bethesda's Bella Italia will whip them into a fancy bag or basket for free (and they'll ship it, too — that's not free). Our basket contains a shaker of cocoa powder ($15), Euro chocolate bars ($3 each), a blue bag o' biscotti ($8.50), medallion-shaped Croxetti pasta ($8), an extremely large nougat bar ($18), jars of pesto ($9), bruschetta spread ($6) and sundried tomatoes ($9), a wine coaster and cork set ($40) and fancy hazelnut candy ($15 per bag). (4844 Bethesda Ave.; 301-654-2667.)

MOMMY ISSUES

She's a saint! She's a spy! She's trying to kill me! No madonna-whore complex can hold a candle to CIA agent Sydney Bristow's issues with her mom, played deliciously by Lena Olin. A set of all three "Alias" seasons can be had for $145 only at Amazon.com, just in time for the start of the fourth season on Jan. 5.

DADDY ISSUES

The Darth Vader Voice Changer Helmet ($30) could turn even a girly-man like Hayden Christensen into James Earl Jones. Ideal for prank phone calls. (See hasbro.com/starwars for area stores.)

WANTS A BABY

OK, so this one's a little cruel (and stolen from season four of "Sex and the City"). The 15th Anniversary Edition Instant Infant ($8) may be cardboard, but he/she/it is darned well-behaved. (Pulp, 1803 14th St NW; 202-462-7857.)

IS A BABY

Do you wish to gender-type your infant yet subvert the oppressive symbolism of pink and light blue? Gift him/her/it a "I'm Not a Boy/Girl" onesie. ($23-$26, wrybaby.com; Pulp; and Blue House, 7770 Woodmont Ave., Bethesda; 301-656-6088.)

ENJOYS VACUUMING

Plug this self-contained console into the TV and you'll find that the lovely Ms. Pac-Man hasn't aged a day. Almost as fun as watching the Dustbuster obliterate crumbs. The unit also plays Galaga, Mappy, Pole-Position and Xevious. ($20, see jakkstvgames.com for stores.)

WON'T MIX FOOD

If the mashed potatoes touch the green beans, neither are touching his lips. Keep portions at a safe distance with TV dinner-style sectional trays ($8 each). Yeah, they're from a kid's store, but they're plenty big for an adult and super-retro-fun. (In five colors. potterybarnkids.com or Pottery Barn Kids, Tyson's Corner Center, 703-356-2172.)

THINKS SHE CAN SING BUT TOTALLY CAN'T

The Leadsinger all-in-one karaoke microphone can ruthlessly grade tonal accuracy. It comes with 300 decent songs built right in; additional cartridges such as "Teens 2003" and "Variety Show Folk" add 100 to 200 songs for $60 to $80 each. ($130, see leadsinger.com for stores.)

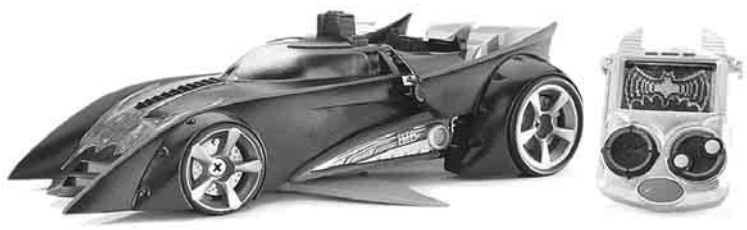
WON'T WATCH FILMS WITHOUT SUBTITLES

Movies in English just lack that certain something. Gift certificates to the new Landmark E Street Cinema (555 11th Street NW; 202-452-7672) will keep your cinema snob happy for weeks and can also be used at the Bethesda Row location. (7235 Woodmont Ave.; 301-652-7273.)

NERVOUSLY CLUTCHES PURSE IN LAP AT RESTAURANTS

It's rare to find a gift that fits a market so niche, yet so thirsty for innovation. The wee Handbag Hanger ($15) allows her to hang her purse off a table anywhere she goes. This humble gift will make someone in your life very, very happy. (Container Store; see containerstore.com for area locations.)

Gift Guide

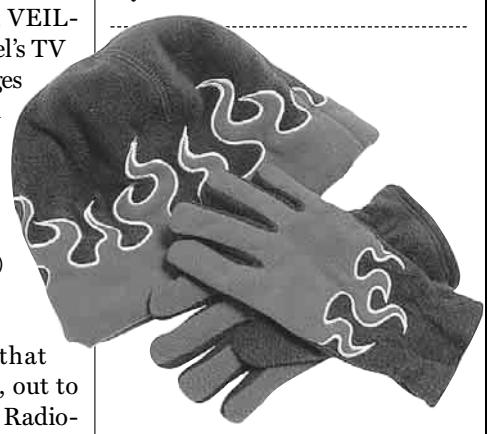


BLURS FANTASY AND REALITY
The WB's "The Batman" cartoon uses future-tastic VEIL (Video Encoded Invisible Light) technology to communicate with VEIL-enabled toys such as Mattel's TV Activated Batmobile ($55, ages 6 and up). Lights flash and sounds play in reaction to the action — for example, the car's "engine" revs when the cartoon Batman drives away. (At major toy stores.)

PARANOID
Children may discover that their siblings are, indeed, out to get them with Discovery's Radio-Controlled Spymobile ($40, ages 8 and up). Transmitting sound from up to 30 feet, the small, quiet car is handy for acquiring intelligence and uncovering sinister plots. (See discoverystore.com to order or to find local Discovery stores.)

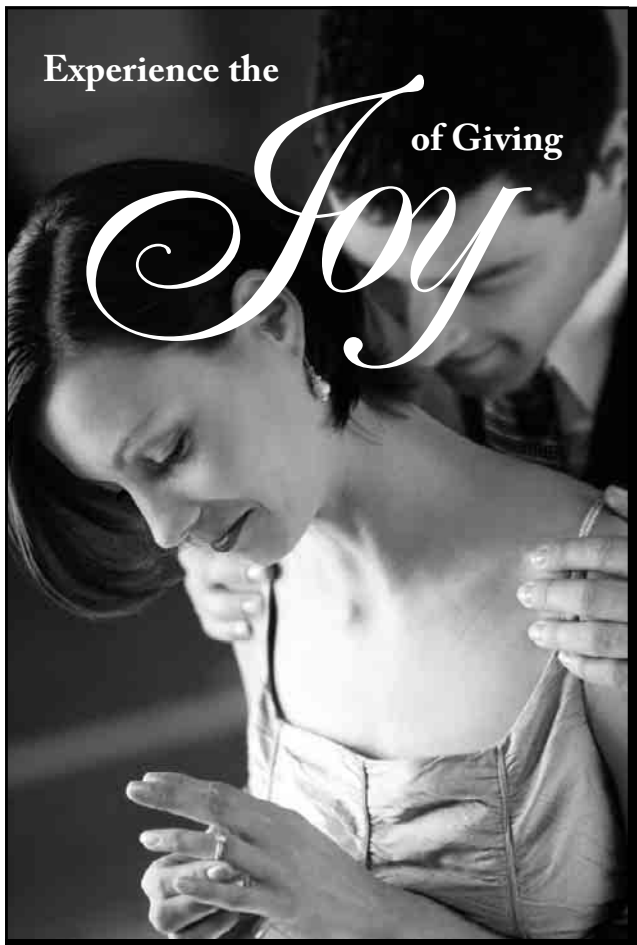
CRAVES 'X-TREME' EXPERIENCES
The Flybar 1200 pogo stick ($300) — or "mobile exercise and stunt bar," as the manufacturer prefers it to be called — promises to launch a 200-lb. rider more than five feet into the air. It's for ages 14 and up and is most sensibly used while wearing a helmet. The feeling is reportedly not unlike bouncing on a trampoline. (amazon.com)

OVER-IDENTIFIES WITH FORENSIC SCIENTISTS
The Forensic Facial Reconstruction Kit ($20, ages 8 and up) teaches children to reconstruct the faces of dead people. Consisting largely of a plastic skull and modeling clay, the kits are available with either blue or brown eyes. Moms will treasure their clay murder victim forever! (Toys R Us; see toysrus.com for locations.)



UNHEALTHY INTEREST IN FIRE
L.L. Bean's children's fleece flame hat and gloves ($14.50 each) keep ears and fingers toasty; the mesmerizing pattern evokes hot rods and/or large trucks. (In six color combos. See llbean.com to order or to find area stores.)

TOTALLY NORMAL
What totally normal child wouldn't enjoy an afternoon of button-making? Discovery's Button Maker ($25, ages 6 and up) doesn't even use batteries, it's so normal. The kit comes with everything needed to make about 70 refreshingly normal buttons.



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Gift Guide

No-Limit Shopping

A local pro's picks for the best poker gifts

With poker suddenly saturating every corner of American retail this holiday, shopping for your newly obsessed loved one can be as nerve-racking as going all in with a pair of deuces.

Meet Russell Rosenblum, Bethesda attorney, professional poker circuit competitor and the high-stakes Santa who guided us through the world of poker gifts. He finished sixth in the 2002 World Series of Poker and fifth in the 2004 World Poker Tour Championship — so he knows if stuff's been bad or good. Ante up for the good stuff, for goodness sake.

CHIPS: First off, "there is a massive difference between the cheap plastic chips and clay," Rosenblum said. Clay chips "just feel better in your hand;" plus, they're easier to stack. And once players grow accustomed to the satisfying sound of clay hitting the pot, no other sound will do. (To get technical: The majority of chips called "clay" are actually a composite. The difference is negligible, except for the drastic deviation in price.)

Seek out 11.5-gram chips while avoiding those marked with dollar amounts, in case you want to vary their worth. Rosenblum likes Chipco's (chipco.com), but said bargain hunters can find good chips for 35 cents or less. Homepokertourney.com lists prices for several brands.

"Keep the house stocked" by buying more chips than you need, said Rosenblum. "It's not professional to buy and trade chips with other players." Also, it's good to have more of the second denomination of chip, generally red. As people play more, they can make that the minimum and use the lowest denomination to split up pots to buy food or, if you're playing with one dealer, to tip.

If you need more of a color, rolls of chips are easiest to find online. In a rush? Champion Billiards sells pricey 50-count rolls for $25. (Visit championbilliards.com for area locations.)

CHIP SETS: Every retail store and its mother is selling chip sets this year, usually complete with cards, dealer buttons and other extras. Stick to suitcase sets — pros don't do carousels. We found a few sets that meet spec: Hecht's is selling the World Series of Poker set — 500 chips and two decks of cards in an aluminum case — for $100. And if you need both gambling equipment and stylish satin drapes, Linens 'n Things is your one-stop shop. They've got an aluminum case with 200 chips and two decks of cards for $50.

CARDS: Standard Bicycle and Bee cards, available all over, will do fine. But there's no topping Kem cards, which are known for lasting longer than other brands. (See kemcards.com for area locations.)

TABLES: If, like the rest of the universe, you've piled into the Texas Hold 'Em bandwagon, why not get a Texas Hold 'Em table? These should be racetrack-shaped, not octagonal; anything more than 98" long is overkill. Champion Billiards sells a 6-foot folding table for $400.

ONLINE: Deposits at Pokerstars.com or Fulltiltpoker.com make great gifts, said Rosenblum. Or give the lucky recipient buy-ins to various poker tournaments.

BOOKS AND VIDEOS: Rosenblum recommends "Super System" by Doyle Brunson ($30), "Winning Low-Limit Hold 'Em" by Lee Jones ($25) for beginners, and anything from 2 + 2 Publishing. Video-wise, he likes Howard Lederer, especially "Secrets of No Limit Hold 'Em" ($30). "The rest are junk. Ninety-eight percent of what is out there is truly bad. Not bad in the sense of not very good. Bad in the sense of wrong." CHRIS MINCHER (EXPRESS)

MUSEUMS
Japanese Modern: 'Tipsy' from the Sackler Gallery's "Dream Worlds" exhibit and other art about town —all in our listings section. | 25-30

Entertainment Weekend

'Twelve' Is the New Blah

'Ocean's Twelve' has the cast and heists but not the energy

FILM | When, oh when, will men ever learn that size doesn't matter?

The ads for "Ocean's Twelve" proclaim, albeit in a coolly understated way, that "Twelve is the new eleven."

But bigger isn't necessarily better. Under the direction once again of Steven Soderbergh — whose 2001 remake of "Ocean's Eleven" was such a giddy, fizzy thrill — nouveau Rat Packers George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, et al. return for more heists, in more countries, in more foreign languages and with more celebrity cameos.

While the first film featured a robbery of three Las Vegas casinos on a single night — a funny idea for its sheer implausibility, and for Clooney's impenetrable confidence in pulling it off as crew chief Danny Ocean — the gag here is that this fantastically good-looking band of thieves has several jobs planned across Europe, all of which fall apart for various reasons.

At the film's start, casino king Terry Benedict (Andy Garcia) tracks down all 11 members of Ocean's team and demands his $160 million back, with interest. They're in West Hollywood, Calif.; Provo, Utah; East Orange, N.J.; and everywhere in between. Ocean, remarried to his ex-wife and Benedict's former girlfriend, Tess (Julia Roberts), is living a quiet little existence in suburban Connecticut. But he reassembles his crew for a series of robberies to repay Benedict by his two-week deadline.

It's hard not to want to applaud Soderbergh and screenwriter George Nolfi for trying to be innovative, but what they've come up with is a film that's surprisingly heavy on its feet. CHRISTY LEMIRE (AP)

BOB MARSHAK/WARNER BROS.

TRAPPED IN SEQUEL LIMBO: Clooney, left, and the gang brood on how a film so fun could turn out to be so dull to watch.

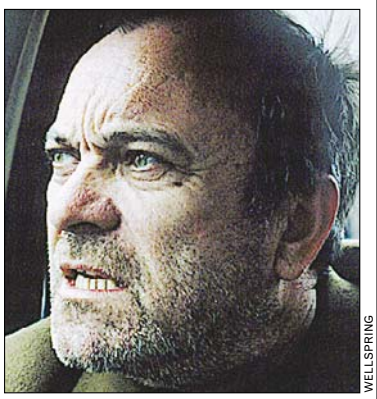
Between Heaven and Hell

FILM | Jean-Luc Godard structures "Notre Musique," his profound and challenging meditation on war, into Dante's three Kingdoms: Hell, Purgatory and Heaven. In confronting war on many levels, he creates a film of flowing, redemptive beauty and poetry.

Hell and Heaven serve as prologue and epilogue to the hourlong Purgatory, which is set in Sarajevo, where Godard himself appears lecturing on "The Text and the Image." He weaves in actual literary figures with fictional characters. Most important of these are an Israeli journalist, Judith Lerner (Sarah Adler), and an Israeli student, Olga Brodsky (Nade Dieu).

Judith eagerly makes contact with the French ambassador (Simon Eine) in Sarajevo, for during World War II he hid her grandparents in Vichy France, and her grandmother gave birth to Lerner's mother during this time.

The ambassador proves reluctant, and takes leave of her saying, "The dream of the individual is to be two, the dream of the state is to be one."



WELL SPRING

SOUND AND VISION: Jean-Christophe Bouvet in Godard's meditation on war.

Judith later encounters Darwich, who tells her how the Israelis have defined the Palestinians and made them "famous."

Olga, in the meantime, attends Godard's lecture, which cuts to the core of what Godard seems to be suggesting with this film — that while language divides people and nations, images may unite them. "Notre musique," Godard suggests, emerges from a list of conflicting forces headed by "death" and "light."

Such opposing movements are eternal: "They are the two faces of truth," he explains. "They are our music." KEVIN THOMAS (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

ClubPicks

FOR COMPLETE EVENT LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

FRI. Hardcore's **LARS FREDERIKSEN** (Rancid) and **ROGER MIRET** (Agnostic Front) haul their tattoos, mohawks and respective side projects for a night of '80s nostalgia to the Black Cat. ... After flirting with pop hooks and superstardom, **NAS**, at Dream, has gone back to his roots as an ambitious and inventive hip-hop impresario. ... Mid-'90s radio stars **BETTER THAN EZRA**, at 9:30 Club, have reinvented themselves as time and commercial whims passed them by.

SAT. Glow, the weekly party at mega-club Fur, sports a set from resident **DJ ARMIN VAN BUUREN**, red-hot in the trance world. ... Local urban troubadour **CITIZEN COPE** (aka Clarence Greenwood) plays the Black Cat with a full backing band. ... DJ team **FAUST & SHORTEE**, at State Theatre, mash up elements of underground hip-hop and all spectra of electronic music into a tasty dancefloor brew. ... In what promises to be a unique concert at the usually staid Birchmere, Mexican-wrestling-masked surf guitar masters **LOS STRAIGHTJACKETS** perform a holiday show. ... Gritty pub-rockers **TONY C. AND THE TRUTH** take the stage at metal-friendly Jaxx in Springfield.

JIM HAGNES

Los Straightjackets shake up the Birchmere with their surf guitar music.

SUN. Do you want to party like its 1996? DC9 offers swing lessons with **ANDY REID**. ... The Birchmere hosts the "high lonesome" vocals of bluegrass and folk godfather **RALPH STANLEY** and his **CLINCH MOUNTAIN BOYS**. ... Local indie popsters **WASHINGTON SOCIAL CLUB** seem to be omnipresent these days. Bassist **OLIVIA MANCINI** plays a free gig at Galaxy Hut. PETER DENTON

TWO THUMBS UP? Or 10 toes? Get the verdict on the latest film releases in today's Washington Post.

Big Stoic Vampire Blues: Although "Blade: Trinity" has its share of the usual vampire executions and fight action, Desson Thomson is ready to put a stake in the franchise's heart. | *Weekend*

Chew on This: With "The Green Butchers," Dogme 95 filmmaker Anders Thomas Jensen has made a tidy little black comedy. About cannibalism. Nelson Pressley reviews. | *Style*

Old News: Danny Schechter's "Weapons of Mass Deception," about political manipulation in the press, is well-researched but nothing new. Michael O'Sullivan reviews. | *Weekend*

Chuck Conley's "The Castle" is one of the more exotic entries in "Personal Favorites," the N/Focus Photography Project now at CakeLove on U Street.

Aiming at D.C.

N/Focus Photography Project both works and shoots together

ART ON THE SIDE | Most people would rather catch up on their reality TV than exhaust those cherished non-labor-related hours chatting with co-workers. But nine certain employees at the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials on Capitol Hill are not most people.

After a casual conversation a few years ago revealed a common interest in photography among the nine, the group decided it would be fun to form a club.

At first, there was no specific daily agenda or even a larger purpose to the club. But this summer, the group formalized itself, adopting a name — N/Focus Photography Project — and finding a place to hang its first exhibit. The club member spoke about how the project came together.

NICE SHOTS: Subjects of the N/Focus Project include animals (Linda Siadys' "Cooper"), still lifes (Sue Linthicum's "Alice's Quilt") and portraits (Patricia Little's "Elderly Woman").

How did you all decide on a name?

CAROLYN TOYE: We each submitted five or six names and we kind of dwindled it down from there. "Capital Shooters" was one choice but with the tense climate around the capital, we didn't think that such a good idea.

How long did it take to find a place to show your photos?

CAROLYN TOYE: We formalized because we had a showcase lined up with Warren Brown, owner of U Street's CakeLove and Love Café. One day, we saw an article about him in the Post and we e-mailed him to ask if he hung art. He said yes. We struck a deal, put together a show and in the process, created the N/Focus Photography Project.

TATE JACKSON: I was hesitant at first to join the club because of my hectic work schedule. I wasn't sure I wanted to spend more time at work. But I'm glad I joined, I never anticipated how much fun it could be.

But there were some late nights?

WAYDE POWELL: There were times we didn't leave the office until 8 or 9 o'clock. But thanks to Carolyn, we made it through and it turned out to be a good experience.

After "Personal Favorites" runs its course at CakeLove, are you all game to do it again?

CAROLYN TOYE: After our financial obligations are satisfied, of course, we hope to deposit the proceeds back into the club so we can continue to showcase our work.

And from everyone else, a resounding chorus of "Yes!" "Yeah!" and "Sure!" DARONA WILLIAMS (EXPRESS)

Love Cafe is located at 1501 U St. NW, "Personal Favorites" runs through Jan. 9; 202-265-6800 (U St.-Cardozo)

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"★★★★" Leah Rozen, PEOPLE

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SIDEWAYS

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Moyers to Leave PBS

GOODBYES | "I was just in the editing room, working on the last piece," Bill Moyers said. "I thought: 'I've done this so many times, and each one is as difficult as the last one.' Maybe finally I've broken the habit."

It hasn't been so much a habit for Moyers as a mission during his three decades as a TV journalist. But come next week, he will sign off from "Now," the weekly PBS newsmagazine he began in 2002, as, at age 70, he retires from television.

His absence after the Dec. 17 "Now" will be keenly felt: Moyers' interest has always been the American people.

He has one immediate project: a book he will write about his years as special assistant to President Johnson. But he has no TV ventures in mind.

Moyers

With his days at "Now" ticking down, Moyers voices pride in that series, which, upon its premiere three years ago, he envisioned as "a flexible format for ideas and conversation, reportage and debate."

The show "Now" will continue with his co-host, David Brancaccio, taking over. We've been trying to do good journalism," said Moyers, "and it filled a real void." FRAZIER MOORE (AP)

Entertainment | Weekend

Movies Now Playing

FOR COMPLETE FILM CAPSULES SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

Reviews by The Washington Post's Jennifer Frey, Stephen Hunter, Desson Thomson and Neely Tucker.

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG, 105) Derived from a novel by John Grisham, this film documents the calumny that accompanies the decision of a couple (Tim Allen and Jamie Lee Curtis) to skip Christmas one year and instead take a cruise. Everyone in the film is mean-spirited, manipulative and repulsive, particularly Dan Aykroyd as a venal self-appointed community leader who leads a campaign against the Kranks. What America is this? (SH)

CLOSER (R, 103 minutes) In Mike Nichols' film, pressing matters of the jealous heart send four modern lovers into a roiling tizzy over the course of a few years. It's a saucy premise, especially when you consider the comely presence of Jude Law, Julia Roberts, Clive Owen and Natalie Portman doing all that bed-hopping, partner-swapping and truth-lopping. But if "Closer" shows us the whole Sturm und Drang of modern relationships—attraction, deception, jealousy and passion—it doesn't show us much more. Nichols's sophisticated direction, Patrick Marber's irony-laden dialogue and the eye-candilicious stars produce nothing more than surface warfare. (DT)

STEPHEN GOLDBLATT

PRETTY VACANT: Jude Law co-stars in the bed-hopping adult drama "Closer."

FINDING NEVERLAND (PG, 101 minutes) Who was the genius behind Peter Pan, Cap'n Hook, Wendy and the Lost Boys? That would be Scotland's own J.M. Barrie (Johnny Depp), the subject of Marc Forster's quietly enchanting film. It which may not tell absolute truth, but film is about emotional truths. "Finding Neverland" takes a crucial time in Barrie's life and runs with it. (DT)

MOOLAADE (unrated, 124 minutes) There is a crisis in the village: Six young girls who are to undergo the traditional rite of "female circumcision" have fled the ceremony. Four take shelter in the compound of a strong woman who doesn't believe in the practice; two are missing. The story is a brutish confrontation of the ancient and modern, between the way things have always been and what they might become. Senegalese filmmaker Ousmane Sembene has made an unapologetic manifesto against the practice and a call to arms for African women's rights in general. (NT)

NEW YORKER

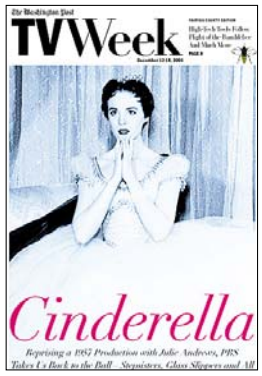
Fatoumata Coulibaly, right, with Salimata Traore in "Moolaade."

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG, 136 minutes) Structurally, this movie is of the school that might be called "one thing after another." It almost never slows down and seems to have been masterminded by an entire film crew on speed. But it's the movie equivalent of comfort food: Expect comic relief from the sidekick, expect the shooters always to miss, expect the gal in charge of the Declaration of Independence over at the National Archives to be beauty Diane Kruger and expect the father (Jon Voight) and the son (Nicolas Cage) to finally hug, and you'll have a good time. (SH)

THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG, 88 minutes) The Nickelodeon cartoon is a classic: It's silly, it's sweet and it's full of all those adolescent jokes many find hard to resist (such as flatulence). And for those already acquainted with this sponge and his friends, the film provides an amusing enough romp through SpongeBob's familiar undersea universe—along with detours to the dreaded Shell City and the mainland. (JF)

THE TAKE (unrated, 87 minutes) Canadian documentarians Avi Lewis and Naomi Klein track two stories taking place amid Argentina's economic collapse: that of the workers at the Zanon ceramics plant who have taken over the factory as they struggle to retain possession and operation, and a hotly contested election. "The Take" is yet another left-wing documentary, but what marks it as unique is its cheerful honesty and faith in the goodwill of men. (SH)

Sunday in The Washington Post



TV Fairy Tale:
PBS revives the sumptuous 1957 musical "Cinderella" starring Julie Andrews, with music by Rodgers and Hammerstein. | *TV Week*

Make Blog Prog:
Blogland's bigwigs offer advice to newbies who may have fascinating thoughts but no knowledge of how to establish a buzzed-about blog. | *Sunday Source*

All the City's a Stage:
Studio Theatre isn't the only theater to have a growth spurt. Nelson Pressley looks at new performance spaces in the works. | *Arts*

N.Y. Station To Revive TV Tabloid

NEWS FOLLOWUP | "A Current Affair," one of the most influential and notorious shows in recent TV history, is returning next fall. The show will air on WNYW in New York, whence it came.

Airing from 1986 to '96, "Affair" gave birth to tabloid TV, which eventually invaded all of TV news to a greater or lesser degree. Current daytime talk-show host Maury Povich was host and ringmaster.

In retrospect, "Affair" was a paragon of journalistic virtue compared with what followed. Peter Brennan, "Affair's" first executive producer, will return as show boss. No word on hosts, but a spokesman said Povich will have no role. (NEWSDAY)

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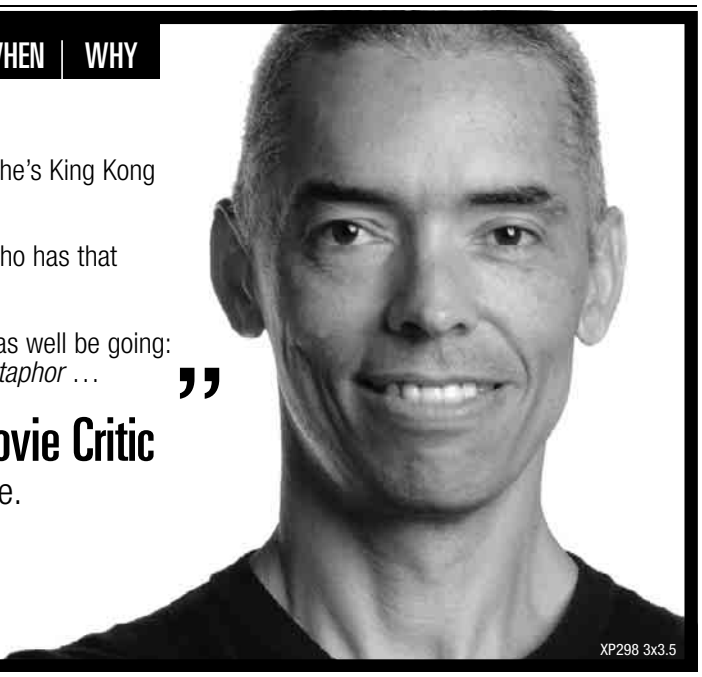

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Saturdays

The Washington Post

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Entertainment | Weekend

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SOUND

9:30 Club: Fri., Better Than Ezra, Ingram Hill, The Silos, 9 p.m., $20; Sat., Umphrey's McGee, Brothers Past, 9 p.m., $15; Sun., Le Tigre is canceled. 815 V St. NW; 202-265-0930.

Apex: Fri., DJ Joe Bermudez, 9 p.m., $8; Sat., Liquid Ladies, 9 p.m., $8. 415 22nd St. NW; 202-296-0505.

Between Friends: Fri., Gothic Night 10 p.m., $10; Sat., Ladies in the Life, 10 p.m., $10; Sun., Immortal Technique, Los Nativos, Akir, Flex Matthews, Mix Master Rod, 8 p.m., $12, $10 (with the donation of a can of food). 1115 U St. NW; 202-232-2544.

Black Cat: Fri., Lars Frederiksen & the Bastards, Roger Miret & the Disasters, APA, 9:30 p.m., $12; Sat., Citizen Cope, 9:30 p.m., $12; Sun., Darkest Hour, Between the Buried & Me, Medic, 8:30 p.m., $10. 1811 14th St. NW; 202-667-7960.

Blues Alley: Fri.-Sat., Pieces of a Dream, 8 & 10 p.m. (Fri-Sun.) & midnight (Sat.), $27.50. 1073 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-337-4141.

Birchmere Music Hall: Fri., Suzy Bogguss Christmas Show, 7:30 p.m., $29.50; Sat., Los Straitjackets, The Pontani Sisters, 10 p.m., $16.50; Melissa Ferrick, 7:30 p.m., $17.50; Sun., Ralph Stanley & the Clinch Mountain Boys, 7:30 p.m., $25. 3701 Mt. Vernon Ave., Alexandria; 800-551-7328.

The Classics: Sat., Suttle Thoughts, 10 p.m., $10; Sun., Rare Essence, 10 p.m., $20. 4591 Allentown Road, Camp Springs, Md.; 301-420-5353.

Club Amazon: Fri., Latin Fridays, 10 p.m., $10-$15; Sat., Lissen Band, 11 p.m., $15-$20; Sun., Flow Sunday, 10 p.m., $10. 13501 Baltimore Ave., Laurel, Md.; 301-210-3466.

Club Five: Fri., Pearl, That '80s Party 9 p.m., $10; Sat., M3: Music Makes Magic, 9 p.m., $10; Sun., Trade, 9 p.m., $10. 1214-B 18th St. NW; 202-331-7123.

Crossroads: Fri., Escape Fridays, 5 p.m., $10; Sat., DJ Superslice B-Day Bash, 9 p.m., $10; Sun., Dancehall Sundays w/ VYBZ Kartel, 10 p.m., $10. 4103 Baltimore Ave., Bladensburg, Md.; 301-927-1056.

Daedalus: Fri., Merge 2nd Year Anniversary Glow Bash, 9 p.m., $10-$15; International Night, 10:30 p.m., $15. 1010 Vermont Ave. NW; 202-369-5600.

DC 9: Fri., Liberation Dance Party, 8:30 p.m., $5; Sat., Mason Dixon, The Lucky Bastards, Eddie Stone & the Sentiment, 8:30 p.m., $7; Sun., Swing w/Andy Reid, 9 p.m., $5. 1949 9th St. NW; 202-483-5000.

Dream: Fri., Nas, 9 p.m., $20; Sat., Smuth, 9 p.m., $10-$15. 1350 Okie St. NE; 202-636-9030.

Fur: Fri., Frost Xmas Party, 9 p.m., $15; Sat., Glow feat. Armin Van Buuren, 9 p.m., $15. 33 Patterson St. NE; 202-297-0377.

Galaxy Hut: Sat., Kaiser Cartel, Todd Deathridge & the Sixes; Sun., Debutantes, Olivia Mancini, Always the Runner; all shows 9:45 p.m., free. 2711 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-525-8646.

H2O: Fri., International Happy Hour, 9 p.m., $15; Sat., Soul Food Saturdays, 9 p.m., $15. 800 Water St. SW; 202-484-6300.

Home: Fri., Dusk, 9 p.m., $15; Sat., Synergy, 10 p.m., $15; Sun., Urban Night, 10 p.m., $15. 911 F St. NW; 202-638-4663.

Iota Club & Café: Fri., Karl Straub, Breaking Laces, 9:30 p.m., $10; Sat., Betty Snow Biz, 9:30 p.m., $15; Sun., Poetry Series, 6-8 p.m., free; Leah Morgan, Anne Heaton, Sam Shaber, 9 p.m., $10. 2832 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-522-8340.

Jammin' Java: Fri., Bill Kirchen, 8 p.m., $15; Sat., Gandalf Murphy & the Slambovian Circus of Dreams, Leah Morgan, 8 p.m., $15; Sun., Jane Siberry, Adrienne Pierce, 7 p.m., $25. 227 Maple Ave., Vienna; 703-255-1566.

Jaxx: Fri., Re-Aligned, Circle of Nero, 7:30 p.m., $10; Sat., Gone Missing, Kaemon, Madison Apart, All View, As Dusk Unfolds, 2 p.m., $10; Tony C & the Truth, The Michael Sheppard Group, Brave, Zuber, 8 p.m., $10. 6355 Rolling Road, Springfield, Va.; 703-569-5940.

Kennedy Center, Millennium Stage: Fri., Sweet Heaven Kings; Sat., Kim Jordan; Sun., The Keshet Chorale, all shows 6 p.m., free. 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Kennedy Center, Terrace Theater: Fri., A Jazz Piano Christmas, 7:30 & 9:30 p.m., $30; Konstantin Lifschitz, 2 p.m., $31; The Tallis Scholars, 7:30 p.m., $32. 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Continued on page 26

A MUSICAL CHRISTMAS | HOLIDAY THRUSH

KRISTIN BARLOWE

CHAIR AND CHAIR ALIKE: The music of country-tinged siren Suzy Bogguss dances on the edge of Nashville, but never dives into the pool. The singer-songwriter handles big-band and swing as ably as she does Americana, and she brings her Christmas Show to the Birchmere on Friday night.

LIVE BLUEGRASS | BAD OLD DAYS

LILA FENTON

KICKING AND SCREAMING: Old-timey music has a genteel reputation, but Charlottesville's Hackensaw Boys, who'll be leading the hoedown at State Theatre on Friday night, resurrect bluegrass' raw roots — anguished, primitive, rowdy and spooky. This is not music to raise a barn by.

Weekend | Entertainment

theSCENE

Continued from page 25

Madam's Organ: Fri., Catfish Hodge, 10 p.m., free; Sat., BBQ Bob & the Spareribs, 10 p.m., free; Sun., The Pete Beck Band, 9 p.m., free. 2461 18th St. NW; 202-667-5370.

Nation: Fri., Cubik w/ DJ Dan, 9 p.m., $10-$15; Sat., DC101 presents Crossfade, Skindred, Intruction, 10 p.m., free w/ ticket. 1015 Half St. SE; 202-554-1500.

Republic Gardens: Fri., Happy Hour, 5:30 p.m., $10; Sat., guest DJ, 6 p.m., $10. 1355 U St. NW; 202-232-2710.

State Theater: Sat., Hackensaw Boys, Kaki King, 9 p.m., $12; Sat., Faust & Shortee, 8 p.m., $15. 220 N. Washington St., Falls Church; 800-551-7328.

Twins Jazz: Fri., Antonio Parker, 9 & 11 p.m., $12; Sat., Sam Burkhardt, 9 & 11 p.m., $15. 1344 U St. NW; 202-234-0072.

Velvet Lounge: Fri., Hockey Island, Lejeune, Todd Griffin, Coraline; Sat., Assrockers, Jealous Lover Targets, Snuggle; all shows 8 p.m., free. 915 U St. NW; 202-462-3213.

Whitlow's on Wilson: Fri., Three Quarter Squeegee; Sat., Jackie Gino; all shows 9:30 p.m., $4-$5. 2854 Wilson Blvd., Clarendon, Va.; 703-276-9693.

DJS | SPINNING GOLD

COURTESY SHORTEE & FAUST

WHEELS OF FORTUNE: Husband-and-wife DJs Shortee, above, and Faust mash stuff up this Saturday at State Theatre.

Zanzibar: Fri., International Nite, Fusion Fridays, 7 p.m., $10-$15; Sat., International Saturdays, 9 p.m, $10-$15. 700 Water St. NW; 202-554-9100.

SIGHT

Anacostia Museum: All the Stories Are True: African-American Writers Speak, through Dec. 31. Selected Works by William H. Smith, through Dec. 31. 1901 Fort Place SE; 202-287-2061.

Arthur M. Sackler Gallery: Dream Worlds: Modern Japanese Prints and Paintings From the Robert O. Muller Collection, through Jan. 2. Arts of Mughal India, through Feb. 6. Asia in America: Views of Chinese Art From the Indianapolis Museum of Art, through March 20. Iraq and China: Ceramics, Trade and Innovation, through April 24. Cai Guo-Qiang: Traveler, through April 24. 1050 Independence Ave. SW; 202-357-4880.

Conner Contemporary Art: Erik Sandberg, through Dec. 23. 1730 Connecticut Ave.; 202-588-8750.

Corcoran Gallery of Art: Frank Gehry, Architect: Designs for Museums, through Feb. 21. Common Ground: Discovering Community in 150 Years of Art — Selections From the Collection of Julia J. Norrell, through Jan. 31. Inventions: Recent Paintings by Caio Fonseca, through Feb. 14. 500 17th St. NW; 202-639-1700.

Continued on page 28

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Weekend | Entertainment

theSCENE

Continued from page xx

District of Columbia Arts Center Gallery: Samantha Simpson: Prehistory of the Garden, ends Sun. 2438 18th St. NW; 202-462-7833.

District Fine Arts: Janis Goodman: Ebb and Flow, through Dec. 11. 1726 Wisconsin Ave. NW; 202-387-5657.

LAST CHANCE Edison Place Gallery: Carroll Sockwell: Am I the Best?, ends Sun. 701 9th St. NW; 202-872-3396.

Folger Shakespeare Library: Letter-Writing in Renaissance England, through April 2. 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077.

Fraser Gallery Bethesda: Winter Group Exhibit, through Jan. 12. 7700E Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda; 301-718-9651.

LAST CHANCE Fraser Gallery Georgetown: Aimee Garcia Marrero, through Dec. 15. 1054 31st St. NW; 202-298-6450.

LAST CHANCE Freer Gallery of Art: Religious Art of Japan, ends Sun. Work and Commerce in Chinese Painting, through Jan. 17. Life and Leisure: Everyday Life in Japanese Painting, through Feb. 20. Young Whistler: Early Prints and the French Set, through March 13. Luxury and Luminosity, through June 26. 12th Street and Jefferson Drive SW; 202-357-2700.

Gallery at Flashpoint: Anita Walsh: Floor Plan, through Dec. 22. 916 G St. NW; 202-315-1305.

Govinda Gallery: Kate Simon: Rebel Music, through Jan. 15. 1227 34th St. NW; 202-333-1180.

Hillwood Museum and Gardens: Tradition in Transition: Russian Icons in the Age of the Romanovs, through Dec. 31. 4155 Linnean Ave. NW; 202-686-5807.

Hirshhorn Museum: Ana Mendieta: Earth, Body, Sculpture and Performance, 1972-1985, through Jan. 2. Cai Guo-Qiang: Traveler, through April 24. Independence Avenue at 7th Street SW; 202-633-4674.

International Spy Museum: 800 F St. NW; 202-393-7798.

Irvine Contemporary Art: Time and Materials, through Jan. 15. 1710 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-332-8767.

Kathleen Ewing Gallery: Christopher Burkett: Resplendent Light, through Jan. 8. 1609 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-328-0955.

Library of Congress: With an Even Hand: Brown v. Board of Education at Fifty, through Nov. 13. From Haven to Home: 350 Years of Jewish Life in America, through Dec. 18. 10 1st St. SE; 202-707-5000.

MUSEUMS | LIT UP

ARTHUR M. SACKLER GALLERY

IT'S 5 O'CLOCK SOMEWHERE: The Sackler's show of works from the Muller Collection includes Kobayakawa Kiyoshi's 1930 woodblock print, "Tipsy."

Marsha Mateyka Gallery: Athena Tacha/Shields and Universes, through Dec. 18. 2012 R St. NW; 202-328-0088.

National Air and Space Museum: Flight and the Arts, Generous Friends, Building an Art Collection for the National Air and Space Museum, permanent exhibition. Independence Avenue and 6th Street SW; 202-657-2700.

National Archives and Records Administration: Public Archives, through Dec. 31. 700 Pennsylvania Ave.; 202-501-5000.

National Building Museum: Five Friends From Japan: Children in Japan Today, through Feb. 13. Liquid Stone: New Architecture in Concrete, through April 17. Washington: Symbol and City, permanent exhibition. 401 F St. NW; 202-272-2448.

National Gallery of Art: All the Mighty World: The Photographs of Roger Fenton, through Jan. 2. Dan Flavin, a Retrospective, through Jan. 9. American Masters: From Bingham to Eakins, through Jan. 30. Gerard Ter Borch, through Jan. 30. Palace and Mosque: Islamic Art From the Victoria and Albert Museum, through Feb. 6. Six Centuries of Prints and Drawings: Recent Acquisitions, through Feb. 21. Fauve Painting From the Permanent Collection, opens Sun., through May 30. 600 Constitution Ave. NW; 202-737-4215.

National Geographic Society: Passages: Photographs of Africa, through Jan. 9. Mapping With Paper and Pixel, through Feb. 13. 17th and M streets NW; 202-857-7588.

LAST CHANCE National Museum of African Art: Playful Performers, ends Sun.; Treasures, through Aug. 15. 950 Independence Ave. SW; 202-633-4600.

Continued on following page

LET'S TALK ABOUT
BEST PICTURE

"ENORMOUSLY ENJOYABLE" DAVID DENBY, THE NEW YORKER

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theSCENE

Continued from preceding page

National Museum of American History: The American Presidency: A Glorious Burden, through Dec. 31. Taking America to Lunch, through Dec. 31. The Beatles! Backstage and Behind the Scenes, through Jan. 2. The Photography of War: World War II Photographic Perspectives, through Jan. 2. Vote! The Machinery of Democracy, through Jan. 30. Ralph Bunche: African-American/Global Citizen, through March 31. Sports, through April 7. Separate Is Not Equal: Brown v. Board of Education, through May 31. 14th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-633-1000.

National Museum of the American Indian: Native Modernism: George Morrison and Allan Houser, through Sept. 21. 4th Street and Jefferson Drive SW, 202-633-1000.

MUSEUMS | BEASTLY

NATIONAL GALLERY OF ART

WILD THINGS: The National Gallery hauls out some savagely colorful "Fauve Paintings From the Permanent Collection"— including Henri Matisse's "Open Window" (1905)— to brighten up a dark time of year.

National Museum of Natural History: In Focus: National Geographic Greatest Portraits, through Jan. 2. 10th Street and Constitution Avenue NW; 202-357-2700.

National Museum of Women in the Arts: Claude Raguet Hirst: Transforming the American Still Life, through Dec. 19. Transitory Patterns: Florida Women Artists, through Dec. 19. 1250 New York Ave. NW; 202-783-5000.

National Postal Museum: The Queen's Own: Stamps That Changed the World, through Jan. 11. 2 Massachusetts Ave. NE; 202-357-2991.

National Zoo: 3001 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-673-4800.

Numark Gallery: Chan Chao: Echo, through Dec. 18. 625 E St. NW; 202-628-3810.

The Phillips Collection: Calder Miró, through Jan. 23. 1600 21st St. NW; 202-387-2151.

Ralls Collection: Mira Hecht: Full Circle, through Jan. 29. 1516 31st St. NW; 202-342-1754.

Renwick Gallery: Right at Home: American Studio Furniture, through Jan. 17. 17th Street and Pennsylvania Avenue NW; 202-633-1000.

S. Dillon Ripley Center: Winograd, through Feb. 27. 1100 Jefferson Drive SW; 202-633-1000.

Spectrum Gallery: As I See It: Raymond Ewing Watercolors, through Dec. 19. 1132 29th St.; 202-333-0954.

Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center: Washington Dulles International Airport, Dulles, Va., 202-357-2700.

Strand on Volta: Brandon Morse, through Dec. 19. 1531 33rd St. NW; 202-333-4663.

Strathmore Hall Arts Center: International Exhibition of Fine Art in Miniature, through Dec. 30. 10701 Rockville Pike, Rockville; 301-530-0540.

Textile Museum: Over One, Under One, through Jan. 2. Floral Perspectives in Carpet Design, through Feb. 6. A Garden of Shawls: The Buta and Its Seed, through March 6. 2320 S St. NW; 202-667-0441.

Target Gallery: Torpedo Factory Arts Center @ 30: One Juror's View, through Jan. 16. 105 N. Union St., Alexandria; 703-838-4565, ext. 4.

Touchstone Gallery: 28th Anniversary Exhibition, through Jan. 2. 406 7th St. NW; 202-347-2787.

Transformer Gallery: Rejoice!, through Jan. 22. 1404 P St. NW; 202-483-1102.

U.S. Botanic Garden: Home for the Holidays: A Sentimental Journey, through Jan. 9. 245 1st St. SW; 202-225-8333.

U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum: 100 Raoul Wallenberg Place SW; 202-488-0400.

Zenith Gallery: Six Artists, Six Works, through Jan. 9. 901 E. St. NW; 202-783-2963.

STAGE

The Best Christmas Pageant Ever: through Dec. 19, $10. Alden Theatre, 1234 Ingleside Ave., McLean; 800-551-7328.

A Broadway Christmas Carol: through Dec. 30, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), $30; Round House Theatre, 8641 Colesville Road, Silver Spring; 240-644-1100.

Carousel: through Dec. 31, $15-$26. Olney Theatre Center for the Arts, 2001 Olney-Sandy Spring Road, Olney, Md.; 301-924-3400.

Continued on page 30

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Weekend | Entertainment

theSCENE

Continued from page 29

A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas: through Jan. 2, 2:30 p.m., (Fri. & Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Fri.-Sun.), $16-$48. Ford's Theatre, 511 10th St. NW; 202-347-4833.

LAST CHANCE Christmas Revels: Washington Revels, ends Sun., 7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m (Sat. & Sun.), $12-$38. GWU, Lisner Auditorium, 730 21st St. NW; 703-218-6500.

LAST CHANCE D.C. International ImprovPlus Festival: ends Sun. See www.improvfestival.com.

LAST CHANCE The Diary of Anne Frank: ends Sun., 8 p.m. (Fri.), 3 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), $28-$45. Round House Theatre, 7501 Wisconsin Ave., Bethesda; 240-644-1100.

The Fever: through Jan. 3, 7:30 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 3 p.m. (Sun.), $15-$25.Warehouse Theater, 1021 7th St. NW; 703-684-7990.

Fit To Be Tied: Fountainhead Theatre, through Dec. 19, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), $20. Theatre on the Run, 3700 S. Four Mile Run, Arlington; 703-920-5923.

Grace: Woolly Mammoth, through Dec. 19, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 & 7 p.m. (Sun.), $24-$42. Warehouse Theater, 1021 7th St. NW; 202-783-3933.

Hallelujah, Baby! through Feb. 13, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 & 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), $47-$66. Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; 202-488-3300.

LAST CHANCE The Highest Yellow: ends Sun., 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 & 7 p.m. (Sun.), $37-$47. Signature Theatre, 3806 S. Four Mile Run Drive, Arlington; 703-218-6500.

Highlights of the Nutcracker: through Dec. 19, noon, 1:30, 3 & 4:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), $9-$15. Athenaeum, 201 Prince St., Alexandria; 703-548-0035.

The Importance of Being Earnest: through Dec. 26, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW, $40-$59; 202-488-3300.

LAST CHANCE Ivanov: ends Sun., 8 p.m., (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7 p.m. (Sun.), $25-$48. Studio Theatre, 1333 P St. NW; 202-332-3300.

Movin' Out: through Dec. 19, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), $40-$85. National Theatre, 1321 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-628-6161.

The Nutcracker: The Washington Ballet, 7 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat.), 1 p.m. (Sun.). $25-$69. Warner Theatre, 513 13th St. NW; 800-551-7328.

Our Lady of 121st Street: through Jan. 2, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 & 7 p.m. (Sun.), $24-$42. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Paradise Lost: through Dec. 18, 8 p.m. (Fri.-Sun.), $23-$26. Gunston Arts Center, 2700 S. Lang St., Arlington; 703-553-8782.

Pericles: through Jan. 2, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), $23-$68. Shakespeare Theatre, 450 7th St. NW; 202-547-1122.

Rappaccini's Daughter: Laura Schandelmeier, Sat. & Sun., 8 p.m. (Sat.), 4 p.m. (Sun.), $14-$18. Dance Place, 3225 8th St. NE; 202-269-1600.

Seasonal Disorder: Washington Improv Theater, through Dec. 18, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 10 p.m. (Sat.), $10. Flashpoint, 916 G St. NW; 202-462-7833.

Sesame Street Live: Elmo's Coloring Book: Fri.-Sun., 7 p.m. (Fri.), 10:30 a.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2:30 p.m. (Sat.), 1 & 4:30 p.m. (Sun.), $14-$23. George Mason University, Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax; 800-551-7328.

Thoroughly Modern Millie: through Dec. 26, 7:30 p.m. (Fri.-Sun.), 1:30 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), $35-$93. Kennedy Center, 2700 F St. NW; 202-467-4600.

Titus Andronicus: Washington Shakespeare Company, through Dec. 31, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), $22-$30. Clark Street Playhouse, 601 S. Clark St., Arlington; 703-418-4808.

True West: Keegan Theatre, through Dec. 18, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.) 2 p.m. (Sun.), $25. Old Town Theater, 815 King St., Alexandria; 703-527-6000.

Two Gentlemen of Verona: through Dec. 19, 8 p.m. (Fri. & Sat.), 2 p.m. (Sat. & Sun.), 7:30 p.m. (Sun.), $35-$48. Folger Theatre, 201 East Capitol St. SE; 202-544-7077.

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ALEXANDER (R) 5:10, 9:00
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 12:05, 1:10, 2:35, 3:50, 6:20, 8:50, 11:15
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 12:20, 1:20, 2:55, 5:40, 6:50, 8:05, 10:30
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 11:45, 2:10, 4:50, 7:40, 10:20
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 11:50, 2:40, 6:05, 7:30, 9:15, 10:50
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:10, 2:20, 4:55, 7:15, 9:35
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 4:10, 9:20
KINSEY (R) 12:25, 3:05, 6:10, 9:10
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 11:50, 2:45, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 12:15, 1:00, 3:15, 4:15, 6:30, 9:40
RAY (PG13) 11:55, 3:25, 7:10, 10:45
SIDEWAYS (R) 1:35, 4:35, 7:50, 10:55

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CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:00, 9:55
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:15, 4:20, 7:30, 10:20
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 3:00, 5:15, 7:45
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BLADE: TRINITY (R) ✓ 1:00, 2:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:50, 7:50, 9:45, 10:45
CLOSER (R) ✓ 12:15, 1:40, 3:00, 4:45, 5:35, 7:30, 8:10, 10:00, 10:40
CLOSER (R) ✓ 1:40, 4:45, 7:30, 10:00
ALEXANDER (R) 2:50, 6:30, 10:05
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:00, 9:25
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 12:30, 3:10, 5:30, 8:05, 10:35
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 12:10, 3:30, 6:40, 8:00, 9:35, 10:55
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 2:30, 4:50, 7:10
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 9:30 PM
KINSEY (R) 1:45, 4:40, 7:35, 10:30
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THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 12:45, 2:10, 3:45, 5:10, 6:30, 9:10
RAY (PG13) 12:00, 3:40, 7:05, 10:25

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BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 12:05, 1:05, 2:30, 3:30, 5:15, 5:55, 8:30, 10:55
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) ✓ 7:45, 10:25
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) ✓ 7:15, 10:15
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:15, 2:15, 4:15, 5:00, 8:00, 10:45
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CLOSER (R) ✓ 2:50, 5:20, 8:10, 10:40
ALEXANDER (R) 9:50 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 12:45, 4:30, 7:00, 9:40, 12:10
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) 1:45, 4:20, 7:05, 9:40
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:20
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:30, 4:15, 7:30, 10:45
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 2:25, 4:40, 7:00
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 9:15 PM, 11:40 PM
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:25
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:50, 4:55, 7:50, 10:35
RAY (PG13) 3:20, 6:45, 10:10
SIDEWAYS (R) 1:10, 4:10, 7:05, 9:55, 12:25

COUNTRY CLUB MALL 6
Country Club Mall on Vocke Rd near Route 68.
703-998-4AMC

CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 4:15, 7:15, 9:30
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 4:00, 7:00, 9:45
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 4:15, 7:15, 10:05
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 4:30, 7:30, 9:45
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 4:30, 7:30, 9:55
RAY (PG13) 4:00, 7:45

UNION STATION 9
Located at Union Station
703-998-4AMC

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 3:00, 5:50, 8:40, 11:40
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) ✓ 12:50, 4:00, 7:10, 10:10
OCEAN'S TWELVE *(DVS)* (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 3:00, 5:50, 8:40, 11:40
DESCRIPTIVE VIDEO SERVICE REAR WINDOW CAPTION (www.mopix.org)
BLADE: TRINITY (R) ✓ 12:25, 1:30, 3:30, 4:30, 6:30, 7:30, 9:20, 10:30, 12:00
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 8:00, 10:20
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 12:00, 2:30
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 12:40, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 1:00, 3:15, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:10
RAY (PG13) 5:00, 8:15

RIVERTOWNE 12
Exit 4A I-95, 1/2 mi. on Oxon Hill Rd.
703-998-4AMC

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:15, 1:15, 3:45, 4:45, 6:50, 7:40, 9:50, 10:40
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 12:45, 1:45, 4:15, 5:15, 7:20, 8:00, 10:10, 10:50
ALEXANDER (R) 9:40 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:30, 4:30, 7:10, 9:30
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:10, 10:50
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:30, 10:30
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:30, 7:50
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 10:00 PM
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
RAY (PG13) 12:00, 3:30, 7:00, 10:20
SAW (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:50, 10:20

ACADEMY 6
Beltway Plaza on Greenbelt Rd., West Court
703-998-4AMC

ALEXANDER (R) 4:20, 8:00
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 4:40, 7:10, 9:50
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 5:00, 7:30, 9:40
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
RAY (PG13) 4:10, 7:20, 10:30
THE GRUDGE (PG13) 5:10, 7:40, 10:00

SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG13) 12:45, 1:30, 3:45, 4:30, 6:50, 7:30, 9:50, 10:30
BLADE: TRINITY (R) 1:15, 4:30, 7:40, 10:25
ALEXANDER (R) 9:45 PM
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) 1:20, 4:20, 7:00, 9:55
BRIDGET JONES 2 (R) 1:45, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:15
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG13) 10:00 PM
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) 1:10, 4:10, 7:15
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) 1:00, 4:00, 7:10, 10:00
RAY (PG13) 1:15, 4:40, 8:00

Times for Friday, December 10, 2004

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Showtimes for: 12/10/04

Loews WHEATON PLAZA 11
Wheaton Plaza Shopping Center, Viers Mill Rd. Btwn. Georgia & University 901-949-9202

★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (11:00 12:50 1:30 3:30 4:10) 6:30 7:20 9:10 10:10
RAY (PG–13) 9:35
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (11:20 12:20 2:00 3:00 4:30 5:30)7:00 8:00 9:20 10:20
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (11:30 2:10 5:00)7:30
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (12:10 1:50 2:50 4:20 5:20)7:10 8:05 9:50 10:30
ALEXANDER (R) (11:10 2:40)6:10 9:40
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (11:50 2:20 4:40)7:05 9:15
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (11:15 1:10 3:40)6:40 8:50
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1:00 4:10)6:50 10:00

Cineplex Odeon TYSONS FARIFAX SQUARE
8065 Leesburgh Pike 703-506-9857

Reel Mom's Tuesday 11:00 a.m.
OCEAN'S TWELVE

★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13)** (12:20 3:20)6:50 9:50
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (12:50 2:40 5:00)7:10
RAY (PG–13) 9:20
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) (12:10 2:30 4:50)7:20 10:00
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (1:10 3:50)6:20 9:00
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (12:00 2:20 4:30)6:40 9:30
ALEXANDER (R) (1:00 4:40)8:30
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:30 3:40)7:00 9:40
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (12:40 3:30)6:30 9:10

MAGIC JOHNSON THEATRES CAPITAL CENTER
800 Shopper's way, Largo 301-324-4220

★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (1:00 4:00)7:00 10:00
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (11:20 1:40 4:20)7:00
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (12:05 2:35 5:05)7:35
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (11:40 2:10 4:40)7:15 9:45
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:35 3:35)6:35 9:35
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (1:30 5:00)8:00 11:00
★ (12:00 3:00)6:30 9:30
RAY (PG–13) (12:10 3:40)7:10 10:40
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (12:30 3:30)7:30 10:30
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (10:50 1:50 4:50)7:50 10:50
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (11:00 2:00 5:30)8:30
★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13)** (11:05 2:05 5:10)8:05 10:05 11:05
ALEXANDER (R) 9:20

Cineplex Odeon DUPONT CIRCLE 5
1350 19th Street 202-972-9956 — Dupont Circle M

WHAT THE BLEEP! DO WE KNOW?! (NR) (1:40 4:20)7:05 9:50
THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (1:10 3:30 4:10) 7:10 9:20 10:05
★ **KINSEY (R) (ON 3 SCREENS)** (12:40 1:20 2:00 4:00 4:40) 6:30 7:00 7:30 9:40 10:10

Cineplex Odeon UPTOWN
3426 Connecticut Avenue 202-966-6805 — Cleveland Park M

RAY (PG–13) (1:00 4:30)8:00

Loews RIO 18
9811 Washington Blvd., Gatihersburg 301-948-0906

Reel Mom's Today 11:00 a.m.
FINDING NEVERLAND

KINSEY (R) (1:50 4:40)7:30 10:20
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG–13) (12:00 5:50)11:40
RAY (PG–13) (2:30)8:20
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (12:40 2:50 5:20)7:40 9:50
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (11:10 1:30 4:00)6:40 9:10
★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (ON 3 SCREENS)** (12:10 3:10)6:10 9:00 11:50
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (11:40 2:20 5:00)
★ **CLOSER (R) (ON 2 SCREENS)** 7:50 10:30
SIDEWAYS (R) (1:10 4:10)7:00 10:00
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) (12:20 3:00 5:40)8:40 11:30
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (12:50 3:40)6:30 9:20 12:00
★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (ON 3 SCREENS)** (11:20 2:10 5:10)8:10 11:10
★ **CLOSER (R)** (1:20 3:50)6:20 8:50 11:20
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (ON 2 SCREENS) (11:30 2:00 4:30)7:10 10:10
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (10:35 1:05 4:05)7:05 9:55
★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (ON 3 SCREENS)** (10:25 1:15 4:15)7:15 10:15
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (10:05 12:55 3:45)6:45 9:45
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (10:45 1:35 4:25)7:25 10:25
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (10:15 12:45 3:05 5:25)7:45 10:05
ALEXANDER (R) (12:45 4:45)8:45

CINEPLEX ODEON CINEMA
5100 Wisconsin Avenue 202-966-7248 — Friendship Heights M

FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (4:15)6:50 9:15

Cineplex Odeon SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph 703-671-0978

SIDEWAYS (R) (1:20 4:10)7:00 9:50
CLOSER (R) (ON 2 SCREENS) (12:50 1:10 3:50 4:30)6:40 7:10 9:10 10:00
KINSEY (R) (12:40 3:30)6:30 9:30
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) (1:30 4:20)7:20 9:40
BEING JULIA (R) (1:00 3:20)6:20 8:50
THE MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R) (12:30 3:10 5:50)9:00

Cineplex Odeon WISCONSIN AVE. CINEMAS
4000 Wisconsin Avenue N.W. 202-244-0882

★ **CLOSER (R) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (12:40 1:30 3:10 4:00 5:40)6:40 8:10 9:30
ALEXANDER (R) (1:20 5:00)8:30
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (1:10 3:20 5:30)7:40 9:50
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (12:50 3:00 5:10)7:20 9:20
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:00 3:45)6:30 9:10

Cineplex Odeon ST. CHARLES TOWNE CTR. 9
11115 Mall Circle, Waldorf 301-645-0818

NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:40 3:25)6:10 8:55
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (2:20 4:35)7:30 9:45
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:40 4:10)6:35 9:05
★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13)** (1:00 3:40)6:40 9:35
RAY (PG–13) (12:50 4:00)7:10 10:10
ALEXANDER (R) (3:00)6:25 9:55
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (1:15 3:15 5:20)7:25 9:25
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1:30 3:50)7:00 9:15
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (2:30 5:00)7:50 10:20

Loews GEORGETOWN
3111 K Street, N.W. 202-342-6033

ESCAPE TO HOLLYWOOD CLASSIC THURSDAY AT 7PM

★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (12:00 1:20 2:50 4:10 5:40) 7:00 8:30 9:50 11:20
★ **BLADE: TRINITY (R)** (11:20 2:00 4:40)7:20 10:00 12:30
★ **CLOSER (R) (ON 2 SCREENS)** (11:50 1:00 2:10 3:30 4:30 5:50) 6:50 8:10 9:10 10:30 11:30
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (12:30 3:20)6:10 9:00 12:00
ALEXANDER (R) (11:00 2:30)6:00 9:30
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) (11:40 2:20 4:50)8:20 10:50
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (12:50 3:10 5:30)7:50 10:10 12:25
SIDEWAYS (R) (1:30 4:20)7:30 10:20
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:10 3:50)6:30 9:20 11:55
RAY (PG–13) (1:40 5:10)8:40 11:45
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (12:40 3:00 5:20)8:00 10:40
THE SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS MOVIE (PG) (12:20 2:40)5:00 7:10
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG–13) 9:40 12:10

Loews WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda 310-423-1014

★ **OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG–13)** (1:10 4:00)6:45 9:30
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1:15 3:50)6:15 9:00
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1:00 3:40)6:30 9:15
THE POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1:20 3:30)7:00
BRIDGET JONES: THE EDGE OF REASON (R) 9:20
RAY (PG–13) (1:30 5:00)8:45

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701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1145 135 220 415 500) 700 745 935 1030 1210
CLOSER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1200 140 245 430 515) 710 750 940 1020 1215
ALEXANDER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1220 410) 800
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1205 235 505) 735 1005
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1240 130 340 425) 640 730 950 1025
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1215 230 440) 650 915
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13) DIG (Stadium) (1210 230 455) 720 945 1205
BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1155 225 455) 725 955
POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (Stadium) (1150 205 420) 635 900 1120
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (145 430) 715 1000
RAY (PG-13) DIG (Stadium) (1220 335) 655 1010

Now Hiring-Apply at Theatre

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Ballston Common Mall, Glebe Rd, Arlington
(703) 527-9466 800-FANDANGO 377#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1125 1205 1245 130 225 305 345 435 520) 615 700 740 820 910 955 1030
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) DIG (1155 120 230 350 515) 620 750 905 1020
KINSEY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1250 440) 725 1015
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13) DIG (1210 235 505) 735 1000
BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1135 215 455) 730 1005
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG (1130 125 220 410 510) 705 800 950
MOTORCYCLE DIARIES (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1255 415) 715 1010

Now Hiring-Apply at Theatre

BOWIE STADIUM 14
5200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1235 135 335 435) 635 735 935 1035 1235
BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1215 1245 115 315 345 415) 645 715 745 945 1015 1045 1240
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (105 410) 725 1040
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) 640 940 1245
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1230 130 330 430) 730 1030
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) (1220 245 510) 740 1005 1230
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (110 405) 700 950 1220
RAY (PG-13) (1210 340) 710 1030
POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1200 235 510) 750 1020
ALEXANDER (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 400) 800 1150
BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (R) - ID REQ'D (120)
SAW (R) - ID REQ'D (420) 720 955 1225
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13) 1245

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ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center (301) 340-9390
800-FANDANGO 248#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) ★ (1230 100 330 400) 700 730 1000 1030
BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 115 345 415) 715 745 1015 1045
CLOSER (R) - ID REQ'D (1215 110 300 420) 645 750 935 1035 1215
ALEXANDER (R) - ID REQ'D 945
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) (150 425) 720 1020
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) (1210 320) 650 920 1200
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) (1240 350) 655 1005
SIDEWAYS (R) - ID REQ'D (125 435) 740 1040
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) (120 430) 710
BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (R) - ID REQ'D 940 1220
POLAR EXPRESS (G) (1200 310) 640
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) (1235 335) 630 930

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG ★ (Stadium) (1120 1200 100 205 310 400 500) 650 720 750 940 1015 1040
BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1100 1130 1230 140 210 340 420 450) 630 700 730 920 950 1020 1200
ALEXANDER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) (1105 300) 640 1025
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1135 200 425) 645 930 1155
FINDING NEVERLAND (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1140 215 445) 715 955
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1220 110 330 410) 620 710 910 1005 1200
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1110 145 415) 650 905
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13) DIG (Stadium) 1130
POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (Stadium) (1115 155 435) 655 915
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG (Stadium) (1210 130 320 430) 625 925
RAY (PG-13) DIG (Stadium) (1105 240) 635 1010
SAW (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (Stadium) 740 1030

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BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#

Adv. Tix on Sale MEET THE FOCKERS (PG-13) ★
OCEAN'S TWELVE (PG-13) DIG ★ (1215 1245 330 400) 650 720 945 1005
BLADE: TRINITY (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1205 320) 640 930
NATIONAL TREASURE (PG) DIG (1230 325) 620 935
ALEXANDER (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (1150 410) 800
CHRISTMAS WITH THE KRANKS (PG) DIG (1230 350) 715 950
THE INCREDIBLES (PG) DIG (1210 310) 700 940
SPONGEBOB SQUAREPANTS (PG) DIG (1220 355) 710
BRIDGET JONES: EDGE OF REASON (R) - ID REQ'D DIG (315) 1000
AFTER THE SUNSET (PG-13) DIG 1010
POLAR EXPRESS (G) DIG (1240 340) 630 925
RAY (PG-13) DIG (1200) 610

Times For 12/10/04 ©2004 www.REGmovies.com

WHO | WHAT | WHERE | WHEN | WHY

"… What's the difference between this show and the 24-hour flu? Twenty-three hours …

… Where oh where is a cable outage when you really need one …

… No, it doesn't make much sense, but maybe I wasn't paying close enough attention. Maybe I was distracted by a piece of pocket lint …"

Tom Shales | TV Critic
Writing to spare you the agony.

The Washington Post

N02-181/5x3

Television

SO SUE ME: Wayne Brady of "Whose Line Is It Anyway?" and "The Wayne Brady Show" is heading for a sitcom sinecure. The genial comedian has signed with NBC to star in a TV comedy about — har, har! — personal-injury law.

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

FRIDAY'S FROSTY FARE

Chuck Jones' 1966 **DR. SEUSS' HOW THE GRINCH STOLE CHRISTMAS** (8 p.m., WB) remains a favorite, in spite of the recent desecration at the hands of Ron Howard and Jim Carrey. Mike Judge channels the spirits of CB-radio songs past in a Christmas-themed **KING OF THE HILL** (8:30 p.m., Fox) in which Hank and Bobby commandeer an 18-wheeler. Kiss appears on the **FAMILY GUY** (9 p.m., Fox) Christmas episode, followed by another holiday epi (9:30 p.m.) featuring the voice of Ben Stein. "Simpsons" creator Matt Groening collaborated with Drew Barrymore to create **OLIVE, THE OTHER REINDEER** (8 p.m., Cartoon Network), the 1998 fantasy about a dog who volunteers to help Santa when Blitzen shows up on the disabled list.

FAST TIMES

3 (Sat., 9 p.m., ESPN) If they gave out Emmys for the small screen's most smoldering squint, Barry Pepper would win hands down for his portrayal of the late NASCAR racer Dale Earnhardt.

I SAW MOMMY SLAPPING SANTA

Steve Guttenberg stars as Santa's lovelorn son and heir in the cable holiday comedy **SINGLE SANTA SEEKS MRS. CLAUS** (Sat., 9 p.m., Hallmark). It seems Junior is getting on and is contractually obligated to take over the franchise, but he can't do that without a missus, so a dour-looking elf sends him to California armed with a list of willing ladies.

CARTOON NETWORK

DOG DAY CHRISTMAS EVE: Olive the dog turns reindeer to help save the day.

REALITY VS. HYPERREALITY

The two-hour **SURVIVOR** (Sun., 8 p.m., CBS) finale and an episode of **DESPERATE HOUSEWIVES** (Sun., 9 p.m., ABC) should have some network types biting their nails. Should "Housewives" prevail, this could mark a significant milestone in the accelerating decline of the reality genre.

THIS IS A JOKE, RIGHT?

The voices of Ben Stiller, Hugh Grant and Britney Spears animate **ROBBIE THE REINDEER: HOOVES OF FIRE** (Sat., 8 p.m., CBS). Followed by **ROBBIE THE REINDEER AND THE LEGEND OF THE LOST TRIBE** (8:30 p.m., CBS).

ABC

YOU BETTER WATCH OUT: Naughty Lopez is in for a "Nice" overhaul.

DOESN'T ANYONE ACTUALLY GET MEANER AROUND CHRISTMAS?

NAUGHTY OR NICE (Sat. 8 p.m., ABC) George Lopez stars as Henry Ramiro, Chicago's reigning radio shock-jock, who re-examines his attitude after trashing a caller who turns out to be a teen suffering from an incurable illness. "Naughty" is talky, contrived and saddled with a terminally obvious third act. But it provides Lopez with a "Nice" opportunity to establish himself as a comic everyman.

BESTED BY GUTTENBERG

SNOW (Sun., 8 p.m., Family) Tom Cavanagh plays Santa's chatty, scatterbrained son Nick, who travels to the Los Angeles area after a poacher steals one of the jolly guy's reindeer. He finds the missing sled-puller in a sunny zoo presided over by an even sunnier zookeeper (Ashley Williams). I never thought I'd write this, but of the two movies about Santa's son, the Steve Guttenberg vehicle is more subtle.

CNN MILKS HIT BOOK UNDER GUISE OF 'HISTORY'

THE TWO MARYS: THE MADONNA AND THE MAGDALENE (Sun., 8 p.m., CNN) examines controversial theories about the role of Mary Magdalene during the early years of Christianity. KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

12.10.04		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News CC		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Dateline NBC (N) CC		Third Watch "No More, Forever"		Medical Investigation "In Bloom"		News CC	The Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	The Simpsons	The Simpsons	Friends CC	Seinfeld CC	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Family Guy CC	Family Guy CC	News		Friends CC	Drew Carey
	WJLA 7	News CC	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	"A Vow to Cherish" (1999) Barbara Babcock. CC			Less Than Perfect	20/20 CC		News CC	(:35) Nightline
	WUSA 9	News CC	CBS News	USA Tonight	Ent. Tonight	Joan of Arcadia "Dive" (N) CC		JAG "The Man on the Bridge" (N)		Cold Case "Greed" CC		News CC	(:35) Late Show
	WDCA 20	Girlfriends CC	Girlfriends CC	Malcolm-Mid.	Malcolm-Mid.	Star Trek: Enterprise "Borderland"		America's Next Top Model CC		That '70s Show	That '70s Show	Every-Raymond	Dharma & Greg
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	State Circle	Washington Week	Wall-Fortune	Favorites					
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Washington Week	Tucker Carlson	Now With Bill Moyers (N) CC		Jrnl Edit. Rpt	Get Down Tonight: The Disco Explosion CC		
	WHUT 32	White House	Inside Wash.	BBC World News	MoneyWise CC	Evening Exchange		They Made America "Rebels"		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WBDC 50	The Parkers	Steve Harvey	The Parkers	Steve Harvey	Grinch-C'mas	Scooby-Doo	Reba CC	Blue Collar TV (N)	Will & Grace	Just Shoot Me	Will & Grace	Blind Date CC
BASIC CABLE	A&E	City Confidential CC		Sell This House	Sell This House	Sell This House	Sell This House	Makeover Mamas "Holiday Special"		Vanessa Williams Live by Request The recording artist performs. CC			
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter CC		Most Extreme "Swarms" CC		Venom ER CC		Animal Precinct "Lost and Found"		Animal Precinct "Terrier Rescue"		Venom ER CC	
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Freestyle Friday.			Black College	★★★ "Soul Food" (1997) Vanessa L. Williams, Vivica A. Fox, Nia Long.				Club Comic View Doug Williams.		BET Nightly News	Maad Sports
	Bravo	Inside the Actors Studio "John Travolta" John Travolta. CC				Queer Eye for the Straight Guy CC		Inside the Actors Studio CC				Celebrity Poker Showdown CC	
	Comedy	Shorties Watchin'	Stranger-Candy	The Daily Show	Mad TV A "Survivor" sketch. CC		Wrld Stand Up	Com.-Presents	Com.-Presents	Premium Blend	Patton Oswalt: No Reason		Com.-Presents
	Court	Hollywood Heat	Body of Evidence	Cops CC	Cops CC	The Investigators		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	I, Detective	The Investigators "Double Jeopardy"	
	Discovery	Monster Nation (N)		American Chopper CC		American Casino (N)		Southern Steel "Part 2" (N)		American Hot Rod (N)		American Casino	
	DISCH	Chicago Hope (Part 2 of 2) CC		Trauma: Life in the ER CC		Trauma: Life in the ER CC		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Critical Hour "Momentary Lapses"		Trauma: Life in the ER CC	
	Disney	Braceface CC	Lizzie McGuire	Phil of the Future	That's So Raven	★★ "Jungle 2 Jungle" (1997, Comedy) Tim Allen, Martin Short. CC				★★ "Jungle 2 Jungle" (1997, Comedy) Tim Allen, Martin Short. CC			
	E!	101 Crimes of Fashion		E! News (N)	Diary of an Affair	Bad Girls of Reality TV: True Story		Love Is in the Heir	Love Is in the Heir	Saturday Night Live Jennifer Lopez.		Howard Stern	Howard Stern
	FX	Fear Factor "All Female Episode"		Fear Factor CC		Fear Factor "Las Vegas" CC		Fear Factor "Las Vegas" CC		Fear Factor CC		Billionaire: Quest for Best	
	HGTV	Wknd Warriors	Landscapers	Curb Appeal	House Hunters	Debbie Travis' Facelift (N)		Divine Design Christmas		Design on a Dime	Design on a Dime	Painted House	Sensible Chic
	Family	7th Heaven CC		Pinocchio's Christmas		★★ "Prancer" (1989, Drama) Rebecca Harrell, Sam Elliott, Cloris Leachman.				Whose Line?	Whose Line?	The 700 Club CC	
	History	Japan's Mysterious Pyramids CC		Modern Marvels CC		Battlefield Detectives (N) CC		Boys' Toys CC		Boys' Toys CC		Iraq War: Battling the Insurgents	
	Lifetime	The Golden Girls	The Golden Girls	★★ "A Song for the Season" (1999) Naomi Judd, Gerald McRaney. CC				"A Holiday to Remember" (1995, Drama) Connie Sellecca, Randy Travis. CC				Merge CC	
	MTV	Making the Video	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	The Real World	Jammed "U2" (N)	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Pimp My Ride	Viva La Bam	Viva La Bam
	NICK	Hey Arnold! CC	Rugrats First bike.	Jimmy Neutron	Fairly Oddparents	Danny Phantom	Freezerburnt	SpongeBob	Fairly Oddparents	Full House CC	Full House CC	Fresh Prince	The Cosby Show
	SCIFI	Stargate SG-1 "Serpents' Venom"		Andromeda "Phear Phactor Phenom"		Stargate SG-1 "Meridian" CC		Stargate SG-1 "Avatar" CC		Stargate Atlantis "Childhood's End"		Stargate SG-1 "Avatar" CC	
	SPIKE	World's Wildest Police Videos CC		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		Untold L.A.'s Morningside High School basketball team.			CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		MXC
	TBS	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Friends CC	Friends CC	★★ "Rat Race" (2001, Comedy) Rowan Atkinson, John Cleese, Whoopi Goldberg. CC					Sugar & Spice
	TLC	Clean Sweep Cluttered rooms.		In a Fix Repairing a childhood home.		Clean Sweep (N)		What Not to Wear: $50,000 Wardrobe		What Not to Wear Colorful wardrobe.		Clean Sweep	
	TNT	Charmed "Wrestling With Demons"		Law & Order "Oxymoron"		★★★ "The Lord of the Rings: The Fellowship of the Ring" (2001, Fantasy) Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen, Liv Tyler. Premiere. CC							Librarian: Quest
	USA	JAG "Fortunate Son" CC (DVS)		JAG "Offensive Action"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Monk CC		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit	
	VHI	My Coolest Years "In the Closet"		My Coolest Years "The Geeks"		My Coolest Years "The Dirty Hippies"		My Coolest Years "Summer Vacation"		My Coolest Years "The Metalheads"		Motormouth	Motormouth
SPAN.	TELEM	Corte-Pueblo	Noti-Telemndo	Anita No Te Rajes		La Mujer en el Espejo		Gitanas		Te Voy a Enseñar a Querer		Noticiero Tel.	Laura
	UNIV	Viviana	Noticiero Univ	La Mujer de Madera		Rubí		Amor Real		La Escuelita	Casa de la Risa	Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live) CC			NBA Shootaround	NBA Basketball Philadelphia 76ers at Chicago Bulls. From the United Center in Chicago. CC					NBA Basketball Portland Trail Blazers at Utah Jazz.		
	ESPN2	Billiards: Champs.	NFL Live CC	College Football NCAA Division I-AA Semifinal -- James Madison at William & Mary. (Live) CC						College Basketball Alabama-Birmingham at Oklahoma State. (Live) CC			
	CSN	I, Max (N)	SportsNite CC	NBA Basketball New York Knicks at Washington Wizards. From MCI Center in Washington, D.C.					Wizards Post.	SportsNite (Live) CC		Pro Ftbl Plus	Best-Sports
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight CC		Anderson Cooper 360 CC		Paula Zahn Now CC		Larry King Live CC		NewsNight With Aaron Brown CC		Lou Dobbs Tonight	
	FNC	Special Report (Live) CC		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor (Live) CC		Hannity & Colmes (Live) CC		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	The Abrams Report (Live)		Hardball (Live) CC		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		Hardball With Chris Matthews		Scarborough Country (Live)		Hardball CC	
MOVIES	AMC	(5:45) ★★ "Unlawful Entry" (1992, Suspense) Kurt Russell, Ray Liotta. 'R'				★ "I Know What You Did Last Summer" (1997) Jennifer Love Hewitt. 'R'				FilmFakers "The Big Bang" CC		★★ "Dr. Giggles" (1992, Horror) 'R'	
	TCM	★★★ "Vigil in the Night" (1940, Drama) Carole Lombard, Brian Aherne. 'NR'				★★★★ "Going My Way" (1944, Drama) Bing Crosby. 'NR' CC				(:15) ★★★★ "The Quiet Man" (1952, Drama) John Wayne. 'NR' CC			
	HBO	D3: Mighty	Ocean's 12	Inside the NFL CC		Reverse of the Curse of the Bambino		★★ "Once Upon a Time in Mexico" (2003) Antonio Banderas. 'R' CC				Real Sex Xtra	Terminator 3
	MAX	(5:30) ★★★ "The Client" (1994) Susan Sarandon. CC			★★★ "The Rainmaker" (1997, Drama) Matt Damon, Claire Danes, Jon Voight. 'PG-13' CC					★★★ "Runaway Jury" (2003, Suspense) John Cusack. 'PG-13' CC			
	SHOW	★★ "Unforgettable" (1996, Suspense) Ray Liotta. iTV. 'R' CC				★★★ "Pulp Fiction" (1994, Drama) John Travolta, Samuel L. Jackson. iTV Premiere. 'R' CC					(:35) ★★ "Bound" (1996) Jennifer Tilly. iTV. 'R'		
	TMC	(5:45) ★★★★ "Glory" (1989) Matthew Broderick. Premiere. 'R' CC				★★ "Candyman" (1992) Virginia Madsen. 'R' CC			(:45) ★★ "The Amityville Horror" (1979, Horror) James Brolin. 'R'				(:45) The Hot Spot
	STARZ!	(5:50) ★★ "Meet Joe Black" (1998) Brad Pitt. The Grim Reaper assumes the form of a recently deceased man. CC						★ "The Hot Chick" (2002) Rob Schneider. 'PG-13' CC		(:45) ★★ "Scary Movie 3" (2003) Anna Faris. 'PG-13'			
	ENCORE	(:15) ★★★ "The Quiet American" (2002, Drama) Michael Caine. 'R' CC				★★★ "Red Dragon" (2002, Suspense) Anthony Hopkins. 'R' CC				(:05) ★★ "Batman Returns" (1992) Michael Keaton. 'PG-13' CC			

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ADMIN ASSISTANT
K&H Lawn Services, Inc. in Fairfax, VA is seeking F/T, highly motivated Admin Asst. Must have 2-3 yrs exper in office setting, be self-starter w/ability to multitask, detail-oriented & very organized. Computer knowl. of Word & Excel req'd. $22K+benes. Call 703-732-0482 M-F 9-4

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Earn up to $12-$48/hr
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Call 800-320-9353 x 2427.

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Architecture
Drafting, F/T; Proficient in AutoCad 2000, architectural background; blueprint reading, take-offs & estimating, basic computer skills, interaction skills. Immediate opening for busy construction company in Linthicum, MD. Non-Smoking environment. Good benefits. Send resume to Roman Mosaic and Tile Co. Admin. Officer, PO Box 1567, West Chester PA 19380, fax to 610-692-9379, email gphillips@romanmosaic.com EOE

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Contact Patrick 240-631-0123

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www.csaac.org
EOE

ADMIN EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
Growing real estate business in SE DC needs an experienced administrator with strong organization and computer skills. Fax resume to Denise 202-678-3864.

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Manager needed ASAP. Must have DC license. Call Rochelle at 240-601-1362

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Private non-profit agency in Rockville, Md. seeks individuals to coordinate supported employment for adults with autism. Candidates must have BA in Human Service Field, 2 years managerial experience, clean driving record. Send resume to: C. Allen, Fax 301-762-5230 Visit us at:
www.csaac.org
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CASHIER—Seeking FT/PT positions. Please apply within at the Wall Street Deli, 6903 Rockledge Dr., Bethesda, MD 20817 or call 301-493-6925.

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Growing and innovative concrete contractor looking for a highly motivated individual who has at least 5 years experience in concrete layout of buildings, setting up control lines and shooting elevations. We offer generous wages and benefits including **sign on bonus if hired by 1/20/05**, health care, dental, 401(k)/profit sharing, annual bonuses and car allowance. To be considered, fax your work history w/list of references to: (Only those with experience need to apply)
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DRIVER
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Great opportunity to join our prestigious cardiovascular practice with offices in DC & Maryland. Receptionist must have recent medical scheduling experience, excellent customer service skills & ability to multi-task. Spanish speaking a +. Medical Assistant requirements include LPN or CMA with at least two years of 12-lead EKG experience. Competitive pay & benefits. Fax cover letter & resume to Office Manager at 301-805-4233.

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www.csaac.org
EOE

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Forward resume with a letter of introduction to Dwayne Wells at (fax) 301-831-8640, email dwayne@tylerco.com

TEACHER/SPECIAL ED
Private non-profit school in Montgomery county, seeks Maryland certified special education teacher to work with adolescents with autism. Excellent opportunity. Make a difference in a childs life. Fax resume to: Ms. Moore, 301-208-7259. EOE

Classifieds

JOBS

RETAIL SALES
Busy Chantilly, Va. furniture store is looking for friendly, motivated P/T Sales people. Saturdays 10-6 Sundays 12-5. No experience needed will train. No Metro Access Call 703-631-7318

SALES

OUTSIDE SALES
No VA service company looking for highly motivated driven salesperson. Exclusive No Va territory. Salary, commission, bonus, and car allowance. Fax resume to 703-753-8127

Satelitte Installer

needed in VA. Must have truck and tools. Great pay. For more info call 571-237-4574.

SERVICE TECHS FT/PT employees w/water & fire damage cleaning exper. a must. Espanol habla. Accepting applications on Mon. Pro Clean Inc. 8741 Ashwood Dr, Cap. Hgts, MD 20743, 301-324-1802

TEACHERS/PART-TIME

Help students achieve their goals, flexible hours, pleasant working environment - no lesson planning, signing bonus. Call 301-990-9500

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We have telesales pros working part-time making more than $40/hr! Generous hourly wages plus the most rewarding bonus plan available. Unlimited earning potential. Flex day & night time shifts. conv. Tysons Corner loc. Bus/Metro accessible. Ask about our Incredible Sign-On Bonus. Call Mr McLellan at 703-430-0784

Transportation Manager: Fleet mgmt, supervising and driving exp req. Computer skills a must. Fax resume and cover ltr w/sal req to DC Central Kitchen (202)986-1051. No calls please.

Travel Agent--Vacation
Cap Hill travel agency seeks self-motivated, energetic agent for leisure sales. Positive work environment for take-charge individual. Min of 5 yrs leisure exper. Proficient with Sabre and good organ. skills req'd. CBase and MS Office skils a +. Salary 25K - 35K plus commission and benes. Fax resume to (202) 543-1566 or email jobs@travelroom.com.

VET ASSISTANT—Mon-Fri w/alt. Saturdays. FT/PT. $9-$11/hr. Exper pref'd. Seeking dedicated Animal Lovers. Apply in person: 2935 Chain Bridge Rd, Oakton, VA

Veterinary Assistant/
Receptionist
Hiring for FT/PT position at Heritage Animal Hospital in Sterling, VA. Some work exper and knowledge with small animals pref'd. Please contact or fax resume to Rita at 703-450-1802.

Warehse/Immed Openings
Stock Clerks & Loaders. Will train right person. 1 time reg. fee. Labor Jobs Now: **202-291-5627**
www.dclaborjobsnow.com

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MEDICAL BILLING
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Evening classes start Jan., 2005. College Park, MD. Software and books included. Call Mary 301-982-5050.

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BD $150/NEW in plastic—Qn. pillowtop set! Can del. **301-399-7870**

BD $155/Queen pillowtop set—NEW in plastic—Can del. **301-399-7870**

BDRM: $545. 6pc Cherry Set. New in boxes. Can dlvr. **301-343-8630**

BED-$260—King PillowTop set. **NEW** in plastic.Can del. 301-399-7870

1CT DIAMOND RING PLUS .19CT RING—1CT Solitare ring APPRAISED @ 4,200 w/ EGL certificate ALSO INCLUDING .19 Solitare ring $1500 for both OBO have inclusions 202 396 6367

ALL HOLIDAY SALE
Before you look anywhere else for your computer needs this holiday check out Practical Computer. Top rated 4 yrs. in a row by Checkbook Magazine. Used P3's from $99, Laptops from $199, new PC's from $399. Monitors, printers & more. Serving the area for over 15 yrs. Ask us about trading in your old PC. Mon-Fri., 10-7., Sat. 10-5. 703-321-3003.

BED—Mattress set sale, large selection, all sizes in plastic, $80-$280/set. Make offer. Credit cards accepted. Warranty. Delivery available. Call A.J. 301-674-2843

GRANDFATHER CLOCK—Almost 7 ft tall. Solid wood. New in box w/warranty. Must sell. Can deliver. $295. 800-657-4157

PIANO—1906 Baldwin, 54" upright, beaut. mahog. case, excel cond. $2500. 301-996-2588

POOL TABLE - LIKE NEW!—7-foot Connelly, mahogany/ash, Navy cloth, claw feet, $1400 - 703-998-7531

REDSKINS SEASON TKTS—THE PERFECT XMAS GIFT - 2 luxury club level seats/plus orange parking for five years at $7300/year.Includes 4 tickets to last two '04 home games as bonus.Call 703 281-1418 or 703-731-8207.

SPRINGFIELD, VA
Toys, books, computer prntrs monitor, TV, TV stand, CD stand, VCRs, etc.
7903 Laural Valley Way. Sat. 12/11 8am-1pm.

Takoma Park—Moving Sale! 12/11 Noon - 3pm. Bookshelves, dressers, electronics! 910 Elm Ave. TkPk MD

PETS

ADOPT A CAT/KITTEN—Vet checked. Call Feline Foundation. 703-920-8665. **www.ffgw.org.**

ADOPT CATS—bf06 Yes we have Kitten! SAT 12/11, 11-3, PetsMart Fairlake, (Fairlakes cntr). SUN 12/12, 11:30-3:30, PetMart SpringField, (Frontier Dr near Best Buy). HSFC

German Shepherd—Adorable 10-wk old blk/tan female puppy. Current shots. $300 (240) 876-2208.

RENTALS

AAFB—Act Fast. WHY RENT when you can OWN! Kiss your landlord Goodbye! Lge. brk. Col. 3BR 2 FB, fin bsmt, nice yard. Shopping/Buses. $1350-up. Your Job is your credit. No Hassles. Call 1-800-716-3409 ID:3922 or visit www.Buy.Sell4.com
Re/Max Allegiance

ALEX **$1100-$1500**
OLD TOWN— 1 BR, $1350+ Elec, steps to Braddock Metro.
LANMARK AREA— 2 & 3 BR $1100-$1500 incl all utils. Secure bldgs, great locations. Vacant & ready. Ward Realty Inc., 703-212-8995 x 10

ALEX/$1800 **LANDMARK**
3BR, 2.5BA, 3lvl end TH. 1car garg., gas fpl., hdwd, deck. 703-371-8533.

ALEX/2BR/2BA/3 LVL—w/d, fpl. $1400/MO. OPEN SAT 11-2. 5338 HARBOR CT DR. 703-477-7101

ALEX/BELLE VIEW—2BR/1BA. $1200 + util. Non-smkr, No pets. Call 703-765-2851

Alex/Del Ray—3BR/3 1/2 BA, TH w/loft & cath ceiling. Country kit, crpt, & fpl. 2 OSP spcs. Braddock METRO 1 blk. Avail now. $2250/mo. Call 703-517-3644

ALEX/Delray—TH - 3L, 3bd, 2.5ba, W/D, 2000 sqft, hrdwd flrs, 2 frplcs, wlk to shops/cafes.$1825. Call 703-915-3659.

Alex/Landmark **$1750**
Location
Lux condo, 2 parking spaces, 2BR, 2BA . Call 646-387-6023

ALEX/LANDMRK/1BR/DEN—1½ba, w/d, shuttle to Metro. $1250/incl. utl.703-716-4826; 571-278-3367

ALEX/OLD TOWN— OPEN SUN 1-4. Classic Fed style, 3 blks fr river. 4-level, 3BR, 3½BA brk TH w/2-car garage, great entertaining space. $2995. see photos at www.612pitt.com 703-691-0860

ARL—2BR, 2BA. Wd flr. W/D, Monument view. 2-car gar. Metro. 1301 N. Courthse Rd. No pets. $2200. 301-933-7667 202-413-8384

ARL/CLARENDON—4 Blocks Metro! Renov 5BR/3BA Hse CAC, Decks, Parking $3450+Utils 703-558-0058 www.JuergenHaber.com

ARL N— 1 & 2 BR. From $850 to $1200 incl utils. Walk to Metro, shppg, 2 miles to Key Bridge. Cats welcome. Call 703-527-1991

Arlington/Courthouse—SUNNY 1 BR in Colonial Village. 6mo./1yr lease $1075/mo. Kevin (703)508-8710, KCJvishnu@aol.com

BETH/Grosvenor Park II—Beaut upgraded 2BR/2BA apt. at Metro. $1670. 301-652-1562.

BETH/NIH—Great cond. 3BR+ den, 2BA, new kit, w/d, cac, off st pkg. No pets. $1650. 301-509-0069.

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Save up to $1500*
Dogs Welcome!
Apartments from $863
Maximum Income Guidelines Apply
1 person $36,540 2 People $41,760
3 People 46,980 4 People $52,200
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*Select Apts, Restrictions Apply

ANACOSTIA — 4BR, SFH, wlk to metro, w/d, $2000/mo. 1 blk from Frederick Douglas House. Housing choice vouchers welcome.
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ARL N—Great lower level 1BR w/pvt entr, brand new crpt & paint. Owner will consider pets. Avl. immed. $1000/mo. incls. utl. Call Bill, 703-314-6674. OLREA

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Your Needs. Your Desires. Met.
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Apartments from $1420
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THE METROPOLITANS
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BOWIE -- 3BR, 2BA, $1000 down - Lease option. Other areas avail! Call now, 240-290-1918

BOWIE TOWN CENTER **$1350**
2ND FL - 2MBR/2BA CONDO
New carpet, paint, W/D, walk-in closet. Sect. 8 OK. Call Martin Thomas @ 301-442-5721
Realty Depot USA **(301) 773-5100**

BROOKLAND/CATH U—1BR. w/w. Ceiling fans. Enclosed rear porch. $775 + utils. 202-526-6678.

BURKE/BURKE LAKE—Avail. Immed.
3 lvl. TH, 3BR, 2½ ba, end unit, off Burke Centre Pkwy. $1400. Call Townside Partners, 301 352-6740.

CAPITAL HGHTS—Renov, $125/wk, utils incld 240-375-1436

Capitol Hill—2 level 3BR 2.5 BA only $1800.mo Proplocate Realty202-391-5582
Proplocate.com

Capitol Hill/SE—Studio, 1BA, D/W, W/D, F/P, N/S, Pets OK. Utilit. Included. Call 703-899-8787.

Chevy Chase **$1450**
Top Building
Sunny, spacious one-bedroom in full-service Willoughby: 24-hour front desk, roof pool, gym, valet service. Steps from Metro, restaurants, shopping, movies. 301-656-5929

Clarksburg, Montgomery Co **$1700**
New Charming End Unit TH
3BR 2.5BA 2-car gar min/shop I-270. 301-762-1558 301-806-6827 or email clarks10@verizon.net

Clarksburg **$1950**
BRAND NEW TOWNHOME
3BR, 3.5BA, Library, 2-car garage, upgraded center-island kitchen, deck, computer, satellite, security networks, Section 8 OK.
240-994-5013

CRYSTAL CITY 1 & 2BR APTS—All utils incl w/Cable TV, nr Metro, shops & rests. Free prkg. Short term lease - min 3 months. 1BR Unfurn $1200; Furn $1300; 2BR Unfurn $1300; Furn $1400. 703-979-3772.

Crystal City—STUDIO - Furnished, long/short lease. $1450/mo includes all utilities + Cable TV/Web, private parking, 24hr. Security. Walk to Metro, Shops. Pentagon view from Balcony. Turn-Key living! 703-338-0079

DEANWOOD/NE— 3 story semi-detached home. Newly renovated, scnd in porch, eat-in-kit, fenced in backyd. Section 8 welcome. $1200. 240-882-8181

DUPONT WEST 21ST N ST NW/— 1-BR apt, new ba & kit.,granite counter tops, W/D. frpl, hrdwd, high ceilings, bulit-in bookcases, balcony, lots of sun, $1800. **Call Pat 703-929-7928**

FAIRFAX —Bsmt apt in SFH, pvt entr, patio, frpl, w/d, dw, 1BR, 1BA, $950 incl uts & sat TV 703-625-9159

FAIRFAX CITY—4BR 3½BA Renov. TH. 22x40x3. Furn option,park/pool, Wired. Walk Fx Judic Ctr. $1600/mo. 703-354-2741;c:703-307-2663.

Fairfax **$1150**
Brand New
1 BR Condo, W/D, Granite Counters, Intercom, Pool, Metro Shuttle, Assigned Parking 703-608-0883

FALLS CH—Effcy, $700, 2BR, 3BR,-+gas/elec. Bus at door. Cls to shops. Carlyn Hill Apts, 703-578-3329.

FOGGY BOTTOM—1BR, LR, dinette, kit & BA, laund room, fitness room, walk to metro/bus. $1350/mo. 301-229-9221

FORT TOTTEN—Nr metro! 1BR, ww, utils incld. $930. 240-832-2553 EHO

FAIRFAX CITY—Gorgeous brand new interior 2BR/1BA condo. Granite counters, maple cabinets, W/D, elev. bldg w/intercom, pool, reserved pkg. Avail. Immed w/half Month Free if move in by 12/25. $1475 incl. all utils.
Call 703-481-9814

FOGGY BOT—Effcy w/balc., lndry, pool, hdwd flrs, next to Ritz Carlton, 2201 L St. NW. Avl. immed. Incls. utl. No pets. $1150/mo. Call Sherry, 202-491-5053/agt.

FOGGY BOTTOM — 1 blk from GW. Complete refurbished 2 separate apts: 1 BR, 1 BA, kit, LR, new W/D, off-st-prkg $1950+ utils also 2 BR, 1 BA, kit, LR, DR, new W/D, $1950+ utils. Call 703-968-9730

FORESTVILLE—2BR apts w/ spacious floorplans. Winter Sale!. From $799 including all utilities. Awesome Location only mins from Beltway/495 & DC. **301-735-0260. EHO**

FORESTVILLE—Berkley Estates - Come check out our Move-In Specials! 1BR and 2BR available. Metro Accessible 301-735-0507. EHO

FRIENDSHIP HTS/4108 Garrison St
PETS WELCOME
Newly renov. bsmt apt, new kit, new BA, w/d, frpl, avail immed. $1500/mo. 301-536-3847.

Gainsville **$1695**
Newer & Spacious 4 BR, 3.5 BA TH
HUGE eat-in gourmet kitchen, vaulted ceilings, 3 fin. levels walkout bsmt, large deck, close to shopping, childcare, I-66. Section 8 o.k. 703-848-3831 or 443-854-3522, OPEN HOUSE 12pm-4pm on 12/11/04

Gaithersburg
Rent Free Thru 2004.*
1-BR FROM $799 • 2 BR FR. $925 • 3 BR FR. $1199
Maximum Income Guidelines Apply
1 Person $36,540 2 People $41,760
3 People 46,980 4 People $52,200
5 People $56,400 6 People $60,540
LAKEWOOD COMMONS **(877) 298-4267**
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GEORGETOWN 4563 MacArthur Blvd
PETS WELCOME
Beaut 1BR lwr lvl, avail immed. frpl, LR, DR, wash/dry $1500. Open Sun. 10-12 301-536-3847.

GEORGETOWN—Gorgeous Studio w/stunning patio. Fully renov. Wisconsin Ave & Massachusetts. Infront of Nat'l Cathedral. W/D in unit. $1175 w/utils. 301-442-6332

GERMANTOWN—3 BR, $1,650; 4BR ($2,050). Sect 8 ok. 301-258-0368.

GREENBELT—$1475 2BR 2BA condo rent incls utls. Call 202-361-9023.

Greenbelt—1BR condo. W/D. Very convenient locale. All utilities. $1075. 443-745-5446.

HERNDON/FRANKLIN FARM—lovely 4BR home, quiet neighbrhd. $2200. Avl now. 540-882-9193

HILLCREST—Lovely 3 story, 4 bdrm, living rm, dining rm, newly renovated kitchen, washer & dryer, and free parking located in a quiet hill top community. $2400(includes utility) Cell:703 989 2091 Home: 202 581 0699

HYATTSVILLE—1BRs from $750. 2BR from $905. Spacious Floorplans. ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED. wall-to-wall carpet. Awesome Location. EHO
Don't Wait...Call Now...301-927-3721

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ALL UTILITIES INCLUDED!
Lovely, spacious 1-BR Apts. Avail. From $853
A/C, beautiful parquet floors, newly remodeled laundry rooms, 24 hr. maintenance, large, park-like setting for picnics! Close to schools, bus stop, Metro & the University of Md. (shuttle avail).
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AVAILABLE IMMEDIATELY
New LX 3LVL TH.3BR,2FBA,2 HBA,Car Garage,Near Rt 29 & 216.Call 301-675-7820.

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LOGAN—Effcy, all redone kit/ba, hdwd flrs, lndry on ea. fl., quiet bldg. Avl. immed. Incls. utl. $895/mo. 1420 N St. NW. To see call Sherry, 202-491-5053/agt.

N.E. 1921 Gales St.
Newly renov. w/w, 4BR, 2BA, sect 8 ok. 301-218-5352; 240-460-4759.

NE/228 RANDOLPH—Newly renov 3 BR/1 BA, new kit & carpet, bsmt, w/d, yd, nr metro. $1600+ utils. **Delwin Rlty, 301-608-3703, ext 105**

N.E.— semi det! 5BR, 2BA, renovated, fenced 428 60th St. NE Section 8 ok 703-209-3839

NW/DWNTWN—Newly renov, lge 1BR $875. Conv to shpg/trans. Effcy $750. 202-289-4909

NW—Rms avail. N/S. $360 & up/mo. utils incl. 202-234-5764

PALMER PARK—5BR 1BA 1 lvl, renov, sec 8 ok. $1475. 240-375-1436

NE—Spac renov 1BR apt, amens incl W/D, CAC, modern appls. Nr. Union Station, Gallaudet. $800
SW—1 ($900) & 2BR ($1500) apts avail. Amens incl. FP, HW flrs, CAC, patio, W/D. Nr Metro, waterfront & Capitol Hill. Call 202-544-1374.

NEED AN APT? HO! HO! HO! Rates are low! Move in before the holidays & snow! All applications and credit accepted. 301-585-4613 or apply online at www.ahsmd.com

NW/219 UPSHUR ST—Spac. 1-BR, secure bldg. w/w cpt, new windows, laundry rm, nr Metro. $700+elec Delwin Realty, 301-608-3703X105

NW/604 KENNEDY ST—Spac. 1BR w/ w/w, nr Metro, secure bldg. $725
DELWIN REALTY **301-608-3703/X105**

NW/LeDROIT PARK **8 unit bldg**
FANTASTIC RENOVATION
Lge 1 BR, nr metro, new appl, CAC, 10' ceil, internet & cable ready, intercom, on-site laundry. $1275.
202-362-2642 Lic Agt

Pasadena **$1600**
3 LEVEL TOWNHOUSE
3 BR 1.5 BA w/fin. bsmnt. Paint, appl., crpt new. Pools, tennis, tot lots. 202-236-3210

RESTON—Top flr 3BR 1½BA in Chestnut Grove, renovated. $1450/mo inclds utils.
Call John 703-967-5071

RIVERDALE, MD—50% OFF 1st MONTHS RENT on select 1BRs. Spacious, oversized floorplans. Metro-Bus stop at front door. Don't Wait....Call Now!... 301-779-6663. EHO

ROCKVILLE—1 bedroom, walking distance to White Flint Metro, gas and electric included, oodles of space, w/w carpet, tile bath, oak cabinets,A/C, pool, 24 hr fitness center, shuttle to metro, walking distance to shopping and restruants, balcony and view, $1194 per mo. Call (301)770-8000 ask for Tona or Sonali

ROCKVILLE—2 Bedroom 2 bath, gas and electric included, Free underground parking, walking distance to metro, controlled access building, pool and fitness on site, tile baths, new kitchen, great price $1449 per mo. Call(301) 770-8000 ask for Tona or Sonali

ROCKVILLE—NICE CONDO FOR RENT CLOSE TO SHOPPING CENTERS, AND TRANSPORTATION FACILITIES $11 HUNDRED CALL FOR DIRECTIONS 240-498-6239

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INDIVIDUAL W/D • WALK TO METRO
One Bdrms w/Den from $945 Two Bdrms from $999
Maximum Income Guidelines Apply
2 people $41,760 4 people $52,200
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KSI Management
*Limited time offer-restrictions apply

SE 1243 V St— 4BR 1½BA detached house. Totally renovated, CAC, etc. **Section 8 OK. Call Michaels Realty Inc. 301-306-1777 or 202-437-7565.**

SE—150 Xenia St, lge 1BR w/patio, secure bldg, pvt prk'g, nr Metro, $650 +gas/elec.
DELWIN REALTY 202-561-4675

SE/1819 P ST—1BR & 2BR w/dens, hdwd flrs, secure bldg, lndry rm. Nr. Metro. $650-$750 + elec.
DELWIN REALTY **301-608-3703/X105**

SE/21 Chesapeake ST—2 lge BR, hdwd flrs, secure bldg, nr Metro. Off-st-prkg. $650+elec
Delwin Realty, 202-561-4675

S.E./400 Newcomb St. — Renov 1BR, sec bldg, rent + uts Sect 8 ok Open Sat 12/11, 2-4. 301-681-6691

SE—Cozy 2br, 1ba w/crpt, $800/mo.
Sect 8 welcome. 240-417-8527.

SE
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START LIVING!!!
No Application Fee!
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LEASE NOW AND GET
$1,000 SHOPPING SPREE OR
1 MONTH FREE
if you move in by January.
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SPRINGFIELD/KINGSTOWNE **$1495**
Townhouse For Rent
Lovely 3 bed, 2.5 bath TH, walking distance to Springfield Metro/Train, bus stop in front of house, lot of parking spaces, shoppings around the corner, swimming pool, playground, fenced bkyd ! Available NOW -- 703-899-1742

Classifieds

RENTALS

SE/4240 So. Cap ST—Lge 1 BR, hdwd flrs, nr Metro. Off-street-prkg. $625+gas & elec
Delwin Realty 202-561-4675

SPGFLD—Beaut. Lge TH. 3BR, 3½BA. Jacuzzi, walk-out bsmt, fpl, huge country kitch, 3 miles Metro, Ride-on 2 blks. Excel schls. $1795/mo. 301-717-9445

Springfield $1450
Townhouse for Rent
2 beds townhouse, 2 baths, basement, 7 mins to Springfield mall & metro. Please call for show app (703)867-1636.

SW—4758 S. Captitol Terr., effic., liv. area carpeted, wlk-in closet, nr busline, pvt entr. $450+gas & elec.
DELWIN REALTY 202-561-4675

TAKOMA PK & GAITH'BURG—Eff., 1, and 2 BR. Bargains. 301-270-8330

TEMPLE HILLS—2BR 1BA condo, avl 12/1 $1200+ elec 703-508-2139

TEMPLE HILLS—Open house Dec. 18th. 1, 2 & 3 BR apts avail immed, w/w, d/w, w/d & fpls optional, $99 sec. dep. 301-894-8524.

Temple Hills $1100
Large 2 Bedroom
2 BDR, mins. from dwntn DC & shopping. Remodeled kitchen w/ Wash-Dry. Open House to be held Sunday 12/12 & 12/19 from 12-3pm at 3009 Southern Ave.
A. J. Blackman 703-772-8597

TRINIDAD NE—2BR & 3BR apts avail, newly renov. Sec. 8 ok. Contact Chere Jones 202 487-3112

VIENNA—Lake ville, 4BR 3½BA col, 2 car gar, hdwd flr, fpl, lots storage, wlk to 3 schls. Avail now! $2200. www.purvisforservice.com
703-937-0339. RE/MAX Xccutex

Vienna Metro Station—Brand New! 2BR+Loft, 2BA, Large-1,355 sq ft Across street fr. Metro, 2 gar spcs Gas FP, Balcony, w/d, Gym, Pool Pets welcome $1950 703-593-7299

Wheaton- 3 lvl Brand New Lux t/h. nr Metro. 2car gar. hdwd flr. Call Linne Carrier 301-540-2251 Jobin Realty

WOODBRIDGE
Holiday Savings!
2BR apt with fireplace (Free Firewood all season) at $950. Call today because it wont last! Free shuttle to DC & large pets welcome. Call 703-494-5265

Woodbridge $1375
IMMACULATE TOWNHOUSE
3br,1.5ba 2-level townhousein mint move-in condition. convenient to I-95, shopping, schools. Call Debbie 571-223-0923 for appointment

MOVERS

J & S Movers—Local & Long Distance
No Job to Small. Very Reasonable!
Call 202-726-6078

ROOMMATES

ALEX/King St—13 min. walk from the King St. Metro. Shr house, small BR for non-smkg Male. CAC, digital cable. $375/mo. inclds utils. Call: 703-403-9705 or 703-823-1550.

ARL/CLARENDON—Walk Metro! 2 Rms Renov 4BR/2BA Hse $725 Incl. Utils, HBO, Broadband, Cleaning 703-558-0058 www.JuergenHaber.com

CENTREVL/FAIRLAKES—Shr gorg hse. 30 sec to Bus, 8 mins to Metro. bsmt, 1 rm. $600 up. 703-818-1389

DIST HGT—Rm in N/smkg priv. home to share incl utls, & cable. $475/mo+ $475 sec. dep. 301-324-3766

HERNDON—5 BR SFH shr. Close to shop'g ctr. mpmserv@msn.com. $1000. 703-620-1077

ROCKV—Shr n/s hse, furn BR, kit, d/w, w/d, w/w, $445+ shr utils & secur. dep. No pets. 301-460-5177

CONDOS FOR SALE

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2 Door, auto, CD player, all power, sunroof, perfect condition, MD inspected. $4250. **301-262-8544**

BMW '99 740il—Aspen Gray/gray, all pwr, cass/CD, 56K mi, exc. cond. $20,000. Must Sell! 703-757-7096

BUICK '93 Park Ave, Ultra—Auto, 112k mi, White, AM/FM, Cassette, Insp, New Brakes and Battery, Well Kept, $2500, 703-631-9310

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2 Door, auto, fully loaded, sunroof. Excellent condition MD inspected. $3250. **301-262-8544**

CHEVY '04 Cavalier 4dr, auto, tilt, cd. $8995.
DUDLEY MARTIN 703-368-2111

CHEVY '04 Silverado 2500 HD XCab 4x4 Diesel, brand new only 1500 miles. $36877.
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CHEVY '01 Venture LS 7pass, rear a/c, cd. Only 57k mi. $10,777
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CHEVY '97 Camaro V6—5 spd, T-top, all pwr, 95K, perf cond, MD insp. $4350. 202-391-2927

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FORD '01 F150 XLT 4x4 Clean! 5.4L, auto. $15737.
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FORD '01 Escape XLT 4x4
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FORD '00 Excursion Ltd 68k miles. Winter Ready. $17877.
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GMC '02 Sierra XCab Auto, two tone, cd, low miles. $16977.
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GMC '01 Yukon XL 4x4 Lthr, sunroof. Only 44k miles. $24277.
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GMC 'Pontiac Aztek—Auto, 56k mi, Black, AM/FM, CD, Insp, Snrf, AC, PW/PDL, PS, ABS, Alloys, Cruise, Tilt, $10850, 703-242-1264
loaded

HONDA '02 Accord EX Lthr, sunroof. Only 34k miles. $15977.
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HYUNDAI '03 Sante Fe pw, pl, cd, only 16k miles. $12477
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JAGUAR '01 XJ8—BR Green. 42.5K mi. htd seats. Exl cond. all opts. under warr. $24,900/OBO. 703-627-1262.

JEEP '04 Liberty—Auto, 3k mi, Red, AM/FM, CD, Snrf, AC, PW/PDL, PS, ABS, Alloys, Cruise, Tilt, $18500, 202-986-1988

JEEP '03 Wrangler SE 4x4 5spd, a/c, cd, only 10k miles. $13977.
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LINC '03 LS V8, Silver, Navigation. $23897.
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LINC '03 Navigator
Navigation 28k mi, loaded. $35773.
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LINC '02 Navigator
32k mi. Clean. Md insp. $25763.
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LINC '01 Towncar Signature
36k mi, MD Insp. $17745.
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LINC '00 Navigator
Clean, Black, Md Insp. $22737.
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MAZDA '01 Protege clean, dependable. $6973.
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MERCEDES '01 ML320 4x4 Loaded! Sunroof, navigation. $24,777
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MERCEDES '00 E320 Clean, low miles. $22773.
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MERCEDES-BENZ '00 E320—Auto, excellent condition, 6CD chngr, Bose spkrs, VA Insp, Snrf, Mnrf, Clean, $19900, 703-598-4347

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5k mi. Silver. $26773.
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MERCURY '02 Sable 29k mi, clean, Md insp. $9835.
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MERCURY '02 Mountaineer Entertainment, 3rd seat. $18386.
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MERCURY '01 Villager Estate 28k, lthr, gorgeous! $14273.
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MERCURY '94 Villager— auto, all pwr, lthr, snrf, alloys, excel cond, $2900. 240-882-4637.

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PONT '94 Grand Am—PDL, MD insp, good cond, $1650. 240-535-8720

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TOYOTA '01 Corolla
36k mi, auto, ac. $9773.
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TOYOTA '01 Camry LE
Blue, 43k miles. $13273.
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TOYOTA '92 Camry— Wagon, auto, V6, all pwr, alloys, excel cond, $2995. 240-882-4637.

VOLVO '04 XC70— beaut ruby red, 15K, pristine, loaded, 85K wrnty, ser rec., sat. chips, 4wd, $33,000 firm. Call 202-387-9889.

VOLVO '01 S60 T5 48k, Clean, lthr, loaded! NADA = 21355. @ $19373.
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VW '01 Jetta—Auto, 52k, Blue, AM/FM/CD, Insp, AC, PDL, PS, ABS, 8 air bags, security system, warranty, Excellent Interior and Exterior, $9800/OBO, 301-325-4670

VW - '78 Beetle Conv. 5spd. Good cond. Must sell. Best offer. Call 202-882-0034; 202-306-4951

Look out

TRENDS, CULTURE, DISCOVERIES, IDEAS, PEOPLE

GAP TOPS: Women find that crushers and faux fur go well with a variety of outfits.

Fashion

Lid Lessons

Hats need to fit both your head and the rest of your wardrobe

The rule about wearing hats is to wear them with confidence.

Whether the topper is for sport, style or snow, it's one of the only apparel purchases that absolutely needs to fit your face, said Erica Archambault, a Gap spokeswoman.

Round faces do best with a wide brim, while an angular face is complemented by a rounder, softer shape.

"Try on lots of them to find out which one is right. Ask opinions; it's like trying on glasses, don't be afraid to ask the salespeople. Trial and error is a great way to find one to work for you," Archambault advised.

Next, make sure the hat fits the outfit. "Don't wear a ski parka with a wide-brimmed hat," Archambault warned.

A hat can be the final, finishing touch that pulls an outfit together, or it can be a disastrous piece that throws everything in the rest of your wardrobe into disarray.

This season, Gap customers seem to be enjoying the angora crusher, which offers a wider brim along with a square shape, Archambault explained. It gives women a lady-like look, and works well when worn with a dressier wool coat, such as to work or a holiday party.

> "Don't be afraid to ask the salespeople. Trial and error is a great way to find one to work for you."
>
> ERICA ARCHAMBAULT
> SPOKESWOMAN FOR GAP, ON HOW TO PICK OUT A HAT THIS WINTER

Also popular this year are berets, although they're usually more for weekend wear, and knit sweater hats with a beanie shape that provide day-to-day warmth — they're a bit more functional than fashionable.

A faux fur hat might be the most flexible option, because it is warm but also looks good with jeans or a dress. "It has that apres-ski look," Archambault added.

Real fur hats and fur-trim hats are doing well at trendy New York retailer Intermix.

"They're warm and stylish and super luxurious," said head buyer Sari Sloane. She said she plans on wearing a fox fur hat throughout the winter.

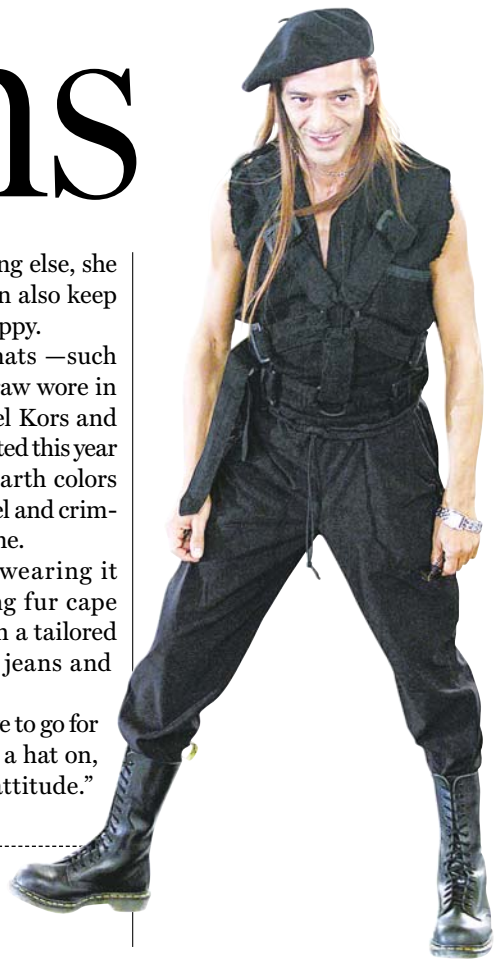
Intermix's fashion-conscious customers choose hats more for their look than anything else, she said, but if the hats can also keep them warm, they're happy.

Bohemian floppy hats —such as the ones Ali MacGraw wore in the 1970s, and Michael Kors and Jennifer Lopez resurrected this year — are selling well in earth colors such as chocolate, camel and crimson red, reported Sloane.

"Our customer is wearing it either with an evening fur cape out to dinner ... or with a tailored cashmere turtleneck, jeans and high-heel boots."

She added: "You have to go for it when you're putting a hat on, it requires a certain attitude."

SAMANTHA CRITCHELL (AP)



SCENE BERETS: It's a popular buy, but it's not to be worn all week long.

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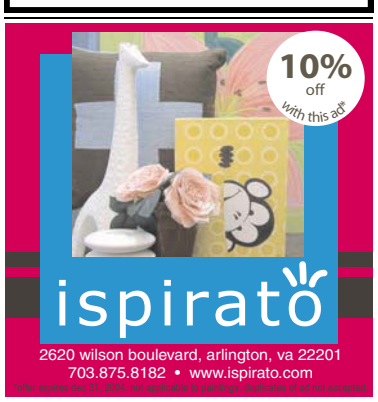

VoIP
What is it?
Why use it?
Find out everything you need to know about Voice Over Internet Protocol in our Guide to VoIP, coming December 14. You'll come away with a definitive understanding of this new and viable alternative to land-line service that you've been hearing about— and discover how you can put it to personal and business use now.
VoIP Guide Coming Tuesday, December 14
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A publication of The Washington Post

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Pets

Holiday Tips

Pet-keeping expert **MARC MORRONE** was online Thursday to discuss pet safety — and how to protect your tree — for the holidays | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

How can I get my dog to stop drinking out of the Christmas tree stand?

Get some chicken wire mesh, cut it to fit and wrap it around the tree base and stand, securing it with nylon zip ties; on top of that, place the Christmas tree skirt. This is about the only way you can do this. It's impossible to teach a thirsty dog that one container of water is OK to drink from while another is not.

Aside from poinsettias and tinsel, what other typical holiday items are lethal to cats and dogs?

Chocolate! Chocolate contains an ingredient, theobromine, which can be toxic to non-human mammals. The other problem with chocolate is that it's usually wrapped in foil and left in candy bowls. When a dog encounters such a bonanza, it will usually swallow both the chocolate and the foil, ruining your day as well as the dog's.

What advice do you have for cat owners who wish to have their Christmas tree survive the holiday season without being toppled?

Go to the hardware store and buy some piano wire and molly hooks, or whatever kind of fastener can fit into your walls and ceiling. Run a wire support from the tree to one wall and from the tree to the ceiling. This will keep the cats from knocking the tree down.

Do not decorate it at first — allow the cats to get the novelty out of their system. After a few days, you should be able to decorate. But do not tempt fate by using heirloom ornaments.

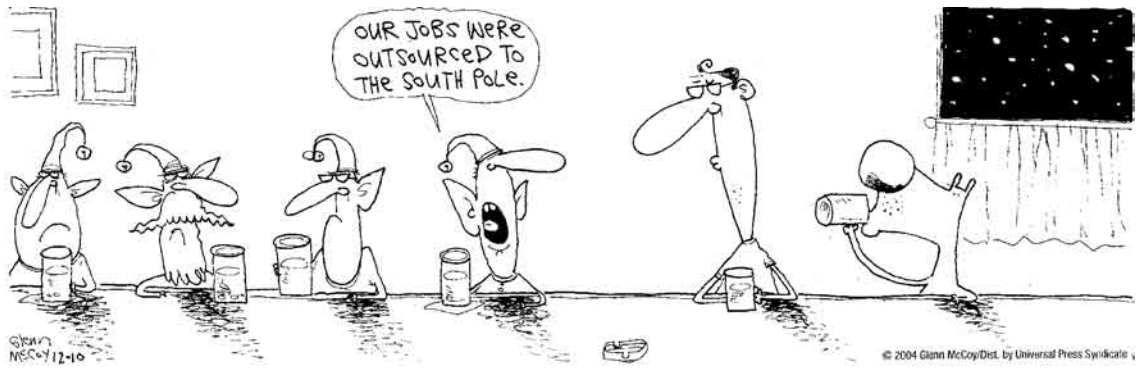
I have a Labrador who has developed a taste for candy canes. Is it harmful to let him enjoy one now and then?

Well, candy canes are basically just sugar, and sugar is no better for dogs than it is for us. But I've known dogs that ate things much worse than candy canes and still lived to talk about it. Unless your dog has a health problem that I'm not aware of, I can't imagine how one or two candy canes during the holiday season could do any harm.

➜ Today on Live Online

2 P.M.: Director Matt August and others discuss "A Christmas Carol: A Ghost Story of Christmas," playing at Ford's Theatre.

The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*

Letters

Save Your Butts For Later

IN RESPONSE TO yesterday's "Watch Your Smoke, Please," I am a former smoker, and I, too, have noticed the inconsiderate people who light up on the escalator. Obviously, it's a very personal choice to pollute your own lungs, but when you puff in such an enclosed area, you really aren't considering others around you — or the fact that you're not technically allowed to do so. It also further damages the already declining reputation of smokers. We're not all so inconsiderate of others. I can't imagine any nic fit could be so bad that you can't wait 30 seconds to squelch it at the top of the escalator, or extinguish it before you descend. So, please, don't give smokers a bad name, and save your butts for later.

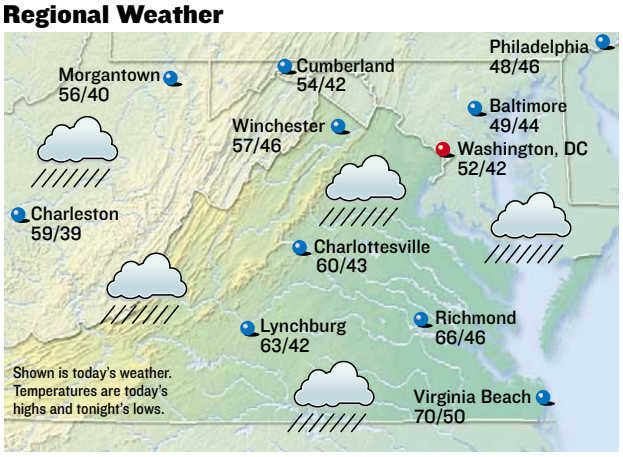
—MEG BLADT
Bowie, Md.

✣ **Write to us:** inbox@readexpress.com

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Cloudy, foggy, rain at times	Showers early, mostly cloudy	Variably cloudy, a shower	Partly sunny, chilly	Partly sunny, blustery, chilly	Partly sunny, cold
52°	42°	55° / 36°	48° / 36°	48° / 30°	41° / 28°

Regional Weather



All forecasts and maps provided by **AccuWeather, Inc. ©2004**

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High	52°
Low	41°
Normal high	49°
Normal low	34°
Average humidity	83%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	0.16"
Month to date	1.09"
Normal month to date	0.90"
Year to date	40.53"
Last year to date	57.66"
Normal year to date	37.31"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: **washingtonpost.com/weather**

Regional Forecast

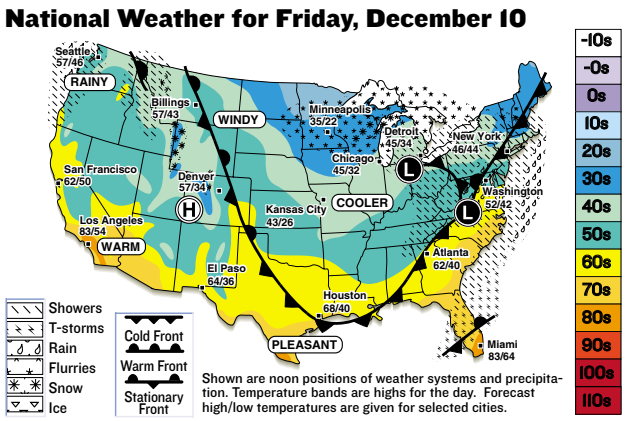
D.C. Metro: Today, cloudy, rain, drizzle, areas of fog. High 52. Wind variable 6-12 mph. Tonight, mostly cloudy, evening showers, patchy fog. Low 42.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:16 a.m.
Sunset tonight	4:46 p.m.
Moonrise today	5:37 a.m.
Moonset today	3:24 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
Dec 11	Dec 18	Dec 26	Jan 3

National Weather for Friday, December 10



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	62/40/r	49/38/c
Boston	42/39/r	50/37/r
Chicago	45/32/r	40/30/pc
Dallas	65/35/s	66/44/s
Denver	57/34/pc	65/30/s
Honolulu	80/64/s	81/66/s
Los Angeles	83/54/s	80/54/s
Miami	83/64/t	73/50/c
New York City	46/44/r	50/36/sh
Orlando	78/52/t	62/42/pc
Seattle	57/46/r	48/38/pc

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	50/44/pc	46/42/pc
Athens	51/39/r	50/39/pc
Berlin	44/43/pc	46/38/pc
Buenos Aires	81/65/s	85/70/s
Calgary	35/33/i	35/17/c
Dublin	52/40/sh	53/43/c
Geneva	49/41/pc	49/41/pc
Moscow	27/18/c	23/18/sn
Rome	56/44/r	56/45/s
Sydney	75/63/t	80/64/c
Tokyo	63/50/r	57/42/s

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

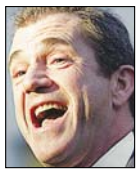
Look out

People

BIG SPENDERS

Gibson's Isle: Mel Takes His 'Passion,' Makes It Happen

Fresh off the success of "The Passion of the Christ," **MEL GIBSON** apparently decided he deserves a luxurious island vacation — so he bought an island. Gibson dished out $15 million to buy the 5,400-acre island of Mago from a Japanese hotel chain, People Magazine reported this week. The island, home to 40 residents — mostly coconut farmers and their families — and two lagoons will be Gibson's private home-away-from-home. "He wants to keep it as an exclusive getaway for his friends and family," the magazine quoted a local source as saying. (EXPRESS)



ETHAN MILLER/REUTERS; JOE CAVARETTA/AP

AWARDS SHOWS

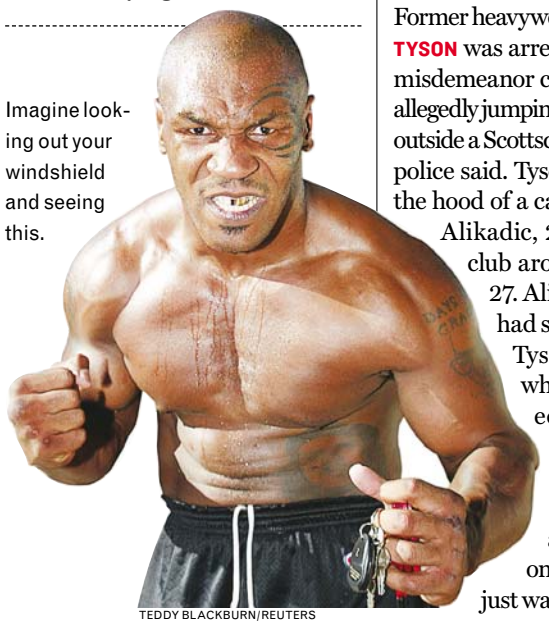
Ushered In

USHER was the undisputed big winner during Tuesday's Billboard Music Awards. The R&B star picked up 11 awards to add to the string of accolades he's received this year. Singer **ALICIA KEYS** had a good night, too, with a none-too-shabby seven awards. But as celebrity lovefests often go, much of the fun was had off the stage. Crowds oohed, aahed and scratched their heads as Britney Spears made her first post-matrimonial appearance with non-famous husband Kevin Federline. And, inexplicably, a little dog, too. She's funny. (EXPRESS)

JUSTICE

Hey — Your Hood Ornament Just Tried to Bite My Ear!

Imagine looking out your windshield and seeing this.



TEDDY BLACKBURN/REUTERS

Former heavyweight champion **MIKE TYSON** was arrested on suspicion of misdemeanor criminal damage for allegedly jumping on the hood of a car outside a Scottsdale, Ariz., nightclub, police said. Tyson allegedly dented the hood of a car as its driver, Asaf Alikadic, 22, was leaving the club around 1 a.m. on Nov. 27. Alikadic told police he had stopped his car to let Tyson cross the street when the boxer started yelling and then jumped on the hood of the car on his hands and knees and began to pound on it. Alikadic said he just wants his car fixed. (AP)

Good Celebrity Citizen

BRUCE WILLIS loves to help people fly — and it shows. The "Die Hard" star said he'd donate land to help build a new airport near his Camas County, Idaho, home, citing concerns about the old complex's safety. "Bruce is ... always very concerned about what's good for his community," local official Mary Ann Mix said.

PITCHMEN

Does Tommy Franks Know Where Your Children Are?

Retired **GEN. TOMMY FRANKS** has signed on to be the spokesman for a company that uses global positioning system technology in teens' cellphones to let parents know how fast they're driving. Franks will be the official face of Teen Arrive Alive. The organization aims to get teens to carry a cellphone containing a GPS chip that sends out regular signals letting parents know where they are and how fast they're going. If a certain predetermined speed limit is passed, an alarm will go off in the cellphone and parents will be notified. In his previous job as commander of U.S. Central Command, Franks directed the invasion of Iraq. He kept tabs on young people's driving then, too. (AP)

CAREER RESUSCITATION

Littrell: Idoldom 'Stepping Stone' to Christian Music

Backstreet Boy **BRIAN LITTRELL** has signed a deal with Christian label Provident Music Group's Reunion Records. "This has been a dream of mine ever since I was a little boy, singing in church in Kentucky," he said Wednesday. Littrell, 29, said that singing with the Backstreet Boys was a "12-year stepping stone" to making his decision, and he hoped fans will realize through his music "that standing up for what you believe in is what's important." He will release the single "In Christ Alone" on an upcoming compilation album, and plans to work with his fellow Backstreet Boys again in March. (AP)

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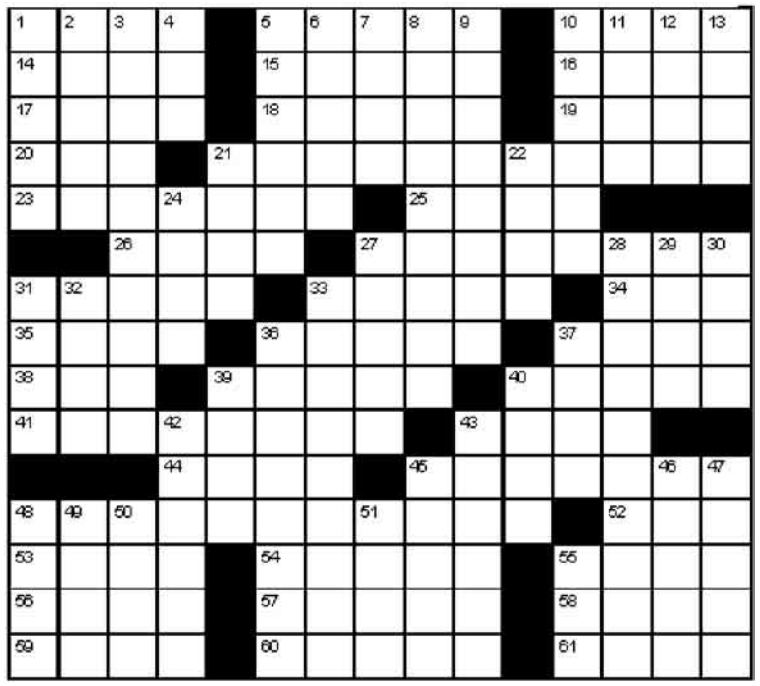
1964

On Dec. 10, the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. received the Nobel Peace Prize; also, in 1958, the first domestic passenger jet flight took place in the U.S., flying 111 people from New York to Miami in about 2½ hours.

An 'I' for an Eye | *Edited by Timothy E. Parker*



ACROSS

1 Cause of a backup
5 Bring shame to
10 Type of nail
14 Skater Brinker
15 Israeli statesman Dayan
16 Mechanical learning method
17 It can be big, bright, good or bad
18 ___ the run (dine hastily)
19 Other, to a Spaniard
20 Lilly or Whitney
21 Cosmetics counter purchase?
23 Gangster film accessories
25 Monetary unit
26 Tight spots
27 Useful microorganisms
31 Gaucho's rope (Var.)
33 Assignments
34 Novel ending
35 "The Nazarene" author Sholem
36 Palindromic court queen
37 Come up against
38 Beast of burden
39 Guys on a ranch?
40 Hand shears
41 Gives a vacation without pay
43 Type of wear
44 Like elvers
45 Oscar winner of 1953
48 "Jumper" singers?
52 Dawn personified
53 Nut case
54 Physicist Ohm
55 French door component
56 Japanned metal
57 "Hill Street Blues" actress
58 Steinbeck character
59 Went like the dickens
60 Word with horse or free
61 Doesn't discard

DOWN

1 Maxwell Smart's boss
2 Borscht server
3 1961 Brando western?
4 Cookie selling org., originally
5 They undergo mitosis
6 Some game
7 Concerning
8 Places for trophies
9 Browbeats
10 "Agnes Grey" author
11 University mil. group
12 Fictional bell town
13 It can be raw
21 "My Friend ___"
22 Tolkien forest folk
24 Scout recitation
27 Makes a bundle
28 Some entrees?
29 "The jig ___!"
30 ABA members
31 They're caught at the beach
32 Son of Rebekah
33 Security blanket relative
36 Source of 31-Down
37 Diva Moffo
39 Monopoly acquisition
40 "___ in the Clowns"
42 Gained vigor (with "up")
43 Be sociable
45 Begot
46 Famed riveter
47 Word before and after "to"
48 Sign seen in Times Square
49 "___ Dreams" (documentary film)
50 Captive of Hercules
51 ___ Linda, Calif.
55 Former coin of France

Yesterday's Solution

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) While others are fighting it out in the trenches, you should be able to soar above it all as a result of positive thinking.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) You'll want to get assigned duties out of the way as early as possible to free up your schedule for impromptu activities.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Trust your guiding light and follow your natural instincts, and you'll not get bogged down in a rut of hesitation and doubt.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You may find yourself thrust into a position of restored authority, just in time to rescue what seems to be a floundering project.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Your best asset is your lively and insightful sense of humor. See to it, however, that you are not misunderstood in your efforts.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) You'll find yourself distracted by those who are following a new and uncharted course. Go along if you feel the inclination.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) You may be getting carried away with your own liberal approach to things. Today is a good day to re-establish self-discipline.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Your interests are expanding, but take care that you are not losing touch with your own spiritual center.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You've got to try to raise your own standards and expectations if you wish to keep up with those at the front of the pack. Competition is fierce.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You've been selling yourself short lately, and today is a good day to re-establish your dominance in the field of your choice.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Much will depend on your ability to see things coming. Anticipation and flexibility are certainly the keys to success.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Even your most loyal supporters may have secret doubts, but you can put them at ease by proving yourself master of your chosen endeavors.

express

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